The SAN JOAQUIN LIGHT & POWER MAGAZINE

FOR

CONSUMERS AND EMPLOYEES

Published monthly by the

San Joaquin Light & Power Co

Daylight Through Tunnel on Tule River

Vol. I November, 1913 No. 11

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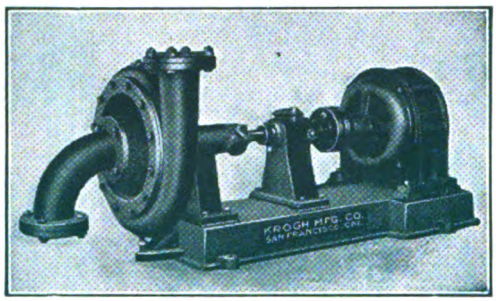

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San Joaquin Light and Power Magazine

CONTENTS FOR NOVEMBER

Enlarged Bakersfield Steam Plant ..... Frontispiece

The Bakersfield Steam Plant ..... Frederick W. Gay 479

Tulare County Citrus Fair ..... Morley M. Maddox 491

Transmission Line Surveying ..... Wm. Stranahan 494

Growing Rice on Alkali Lands 497

Alpaugh Colony as a Dairying Community 500

Wealth of California Makes Wonderful Increase 501

Burning 20,000 Midway Oil Gusher 503

Wonderful Photograph of Burning Oil Well 505

What New Line Means to Clovis 506

Why Some of Us are Observing Thanksgiving Day 508

Editorial 510

An Ode to the Lost Pipe 512

The Live Wire 513

News Around the Loop 515

Vol. 1 **TEN CENTS THE COPY** **No. 11**

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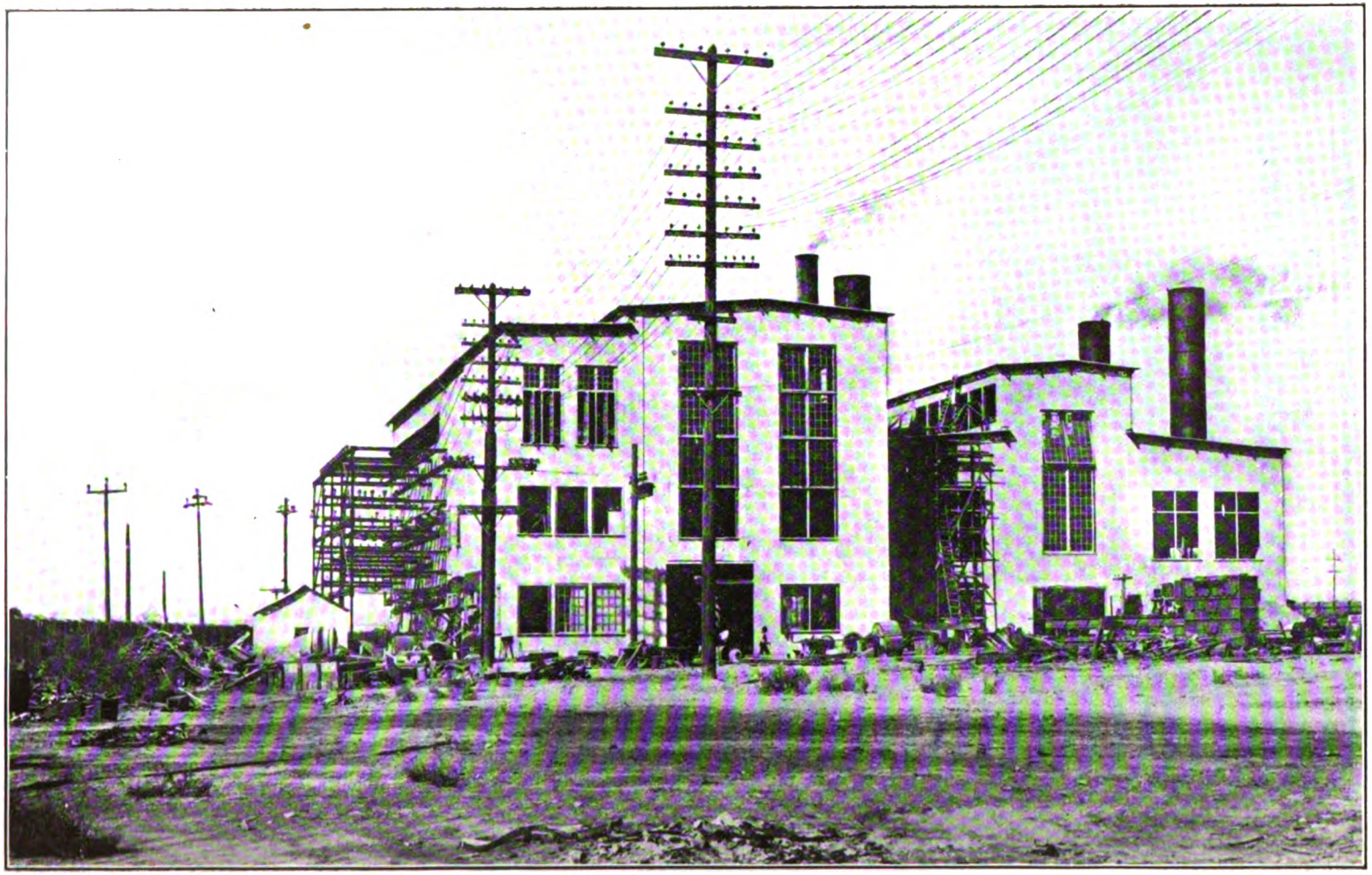

The enlarged Bakersfield steam plant as it stands today

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SAN JOAQUIN LIGHT AND POWER MAGAZINE

VOL. I NOVEMBER, 1913 NO. 11

The Bakersfield Steam Plant

By FREDERICK W. GAY,
Mechanical Engineer, J. G. White Engineering Corporation

THE story of the Bakersfield steam plant is but one chapter in the history of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, the record of growth of which gives even to statistics a flavor of romance. From a total electrical generating capacity of approximately 4500 k. v. a. in 1909, to 40,000 in 1913, with apparatus on order which will bring this total above 46,000 k. v. a. early in 1914, seems but little short of marvelous except perhaps to those who have been so closely associated with the development of the property and of the San Joaquin Valley as to lose their perspective and forget that it is not all in the day's work.

In July, 1910, the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation acquired the property of the Power Transit and Light Company, the latter a holding and operating company, owning the electric, street railway and gas facilities in Bakersfield and vicinity.

The only source of electrical supply owned by the purchased company was a hydroelectric plant on Kern River, about 15 miles east of Bakersfield, and known locally as Kern Canyon Plant. The machinery equipment of this plant, one of the pioneer developments of the state which at that time had become hopelessly inadequate, consisted of 3-450 k. v. a. direct connected units installed in 1895. Power was transmitted to Bakersfield over two 3-phase circuits of No. 4 copper operated at 11,000 volts delta, and delivered to a substation centrally located, where it was transformed to voltages suitable for local distribution and converted into 600 volt direct current for traction and variable speed motor service.

Officials of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, being fully cognizant of the conditions surrounding the operation of this property, realized the necessity of promptly remedying the overloaded condition of the Kern Plant, which, together with the age of the apparatus, had resulted in service which was far from satisfactory.

On account of the considerable transmission distance to Bakersfield from San Joaquin Plant No. 1, approximately 225 miles, it was decided that the remedy which could be the most promptly applied was a steam plant to be located in or near Bakersfield, its immediate purpose being to relieve the Kern Plant, and in view of the proximity of the Kern and other oil fields and the resulting low price at which fuel oil was obtainable, to ultimately become one of the reserve steam plants upon the greater system.

The execution of this plan was turned over to J. G. White and Company, and after consultation on the ground, it was decided that the plant should be located on the irrigation canal of the Kern Island Canal Company, which affords the only dependable supply of water available in sufficient quantity for condensing, the exact location being left for further consideration and negotiations.

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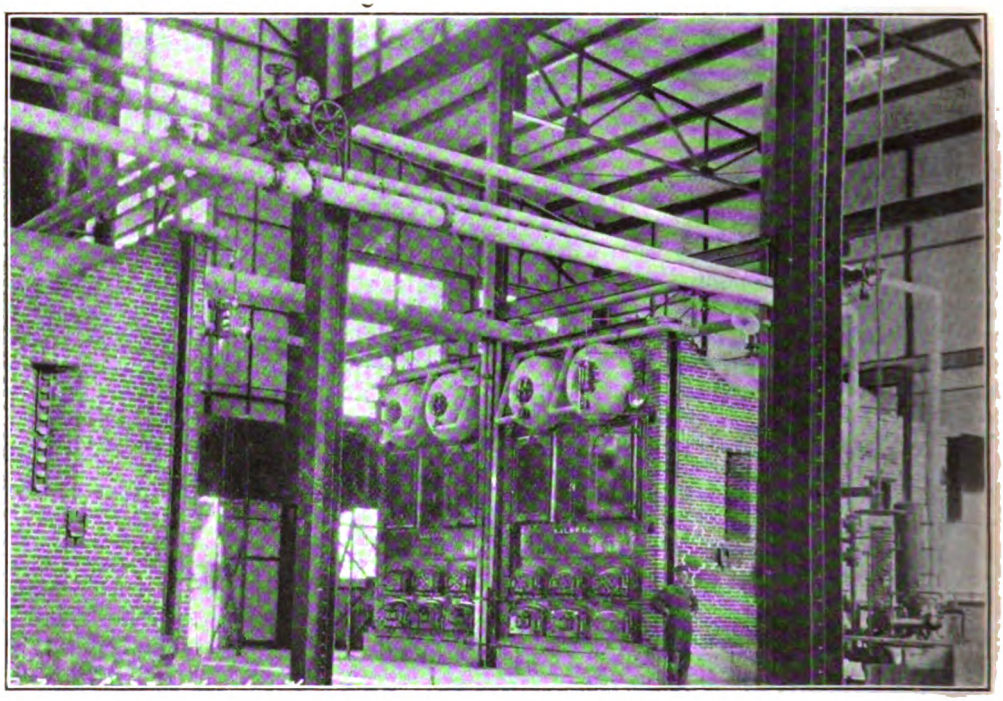
On August 26th, 1910, the company secured an option on the necessary property, approximately fifteen acres, in the northeast section of Bakersfield, lying along the canal and between it and track of the Southern Pacific Company.

In the preparation of the original design, after giving consideration to the load records of the purchased property and forecasting as far as was then possible the future of the plant, it was anticipated that its ultimate capacity would not exceed 5000 k. v. a., which should be in two units of 2500 k. v. a. each, one to be installed as soon as possible, the second a matter of later consideration.

Orders were immediately placed for apparatus for the initial installation, but on account of the considerable length of time necessary for its production and in view of the urgency of the local situation, arrangements were made for the rental of a temporary generating unit of 750 k. v. a., the largest then available. Steam equipment for this temporary generator and the first permanent unit was secured in Los Angeles, where it had been in operation in the plant of one of the local companies. These boilers, four 304 horsepower, were dismantled and shipped to Bakersfield where they were reassembled, thereby saving at some expense a considerable amount of time.

On August 27th, ground was first broken, boilers were received September 28th, the temporary turbine on September 30th, and operation begun on November 18th. In order to carry out the plan of immediate relief, the steam plant began operating before the steel for the building had been delivered, and presented the rather unique spectacle of an outdoor steam generating station, as the boilers were entirely without shelter, and the turbine enclosed only in a temporary shed for its protection during erection of the building and from early seasonal rains.



Interior of boiler room showing four 304 B. & W. boilers installed with the first unit

In the design of the building special

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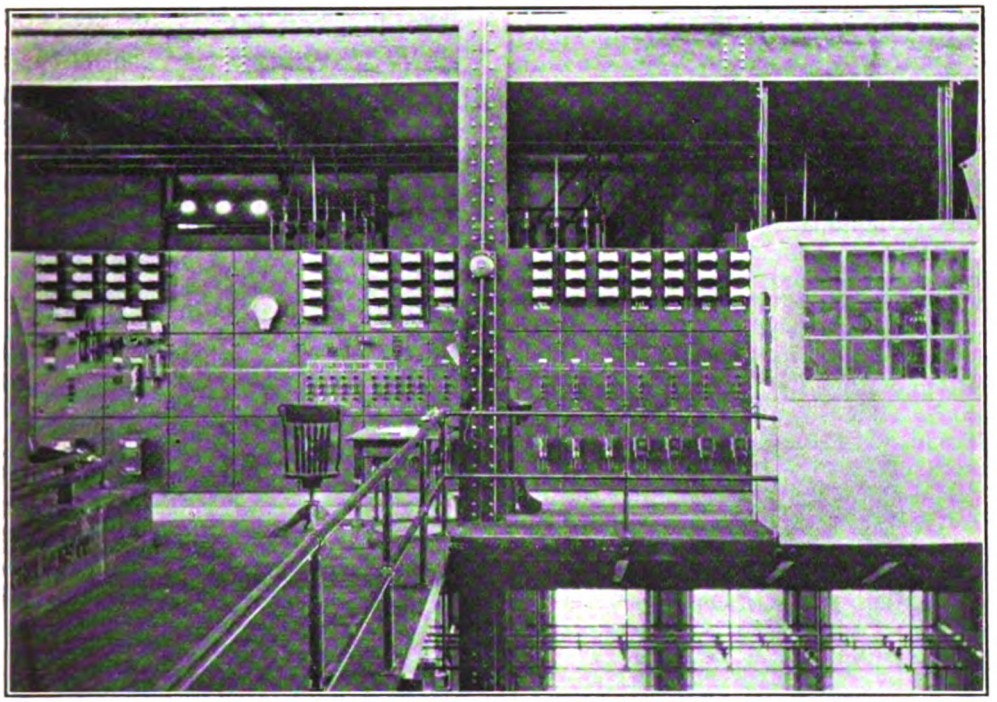
consideration was given the high temperature, which obtains during the summer months, and the prevailing winds.

The electrical layout of the Bakersfield plant is more than usually complicated, due to the plant's diverse functions, as follows:

First, and prior to completion of the company's transmission lines to Bakersfield, to supplement the output of the Kern Canyon Plant and to operate in parallel with it at 11,000 volts.

With this in view the west side of the plant adjoining the turbine room was designed to house the necessary equipment arranged upon three levels, that corresponding to the ground floor of the station being given up to transformers, generator and low tension transformer switches, A. C. D. C. motor generator sets, steam and motor driven exciters, 2300 A. C. bus bars and local service and the control of auxiliaries.

The second or operating floor carries



Front view of switchboard after installation of second unit, showing dummy bus bars, operator's position and telephone booth

Second, to serve as a reserve steam plant upon the enlarged transmission system, and to operate in parallel with it at 60,000 volts.

Third, under certain conditions to operate as a rotary condenser station to correct the power factor of the transmission system.

Fourth, to serve as a substation supplying local service at 2300 volts, series alternation municipal lighting, and direct current at 600 volts for traction and motor service.

the main switchboard, of black slate, the 11,000 volt bus and switching.

The third floor contains the 60,000 volt bus, and 60,000 volt switches for transformers, and outgoing feeders.

A wire rack of structural steel parallels the west side of the building for its entire original length, and is arranged to get away outgoing circuits at various voltages corresponding to the several floors of the operating room. A sufficient number of building outlets were equipped and space

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provided on this rack for four 60,000 volt, six 11,000 volt and twelve 2300 volt outgoing feeders.

The first permanent generating unit, a horizontal turbine, rated 2500 k. v. a., was delivered on March 1st and placed in operation on April 4th, 1911.

To avoid duplication of equipment, and at the same time provide for the several voltages which it was necessary to parallel with and to supply the design of, the first complement of transformers, consisting of four 833 k. v. a. water cooled machines, was a departure from standard practice. Each transformer has the usual primary coils for 60,000 volts and two secondary windings, one for 2300 and a second for 11,000 volts, designed to deliver full rated capacity of the transformer at their respective voltages.

About the time of starting the first unit the company had completed the construction to Bakersfield of its 60,000 volts transmission, now known as the West Side line. This has since been supplemented by a line similarly constructed along the east side of the valley, and the Bakersfield Plant now stands at the south end of this loop, the closing of which has greatly facilitated operation and regulation.

In the interim between the original design of the plant and its completion, the development of local markets and intermediate territory served by the West Side line had been of such character that before operation of the first permanent unit was begun it was decided to immediately increase the capacity of the plant by the addition of a second turbo-generator to be of as large capacity as could be installed. The design of the building was sufficiently flexible so that with some modifications and a small addition to house transformers it was possible to provide space for a second unit of 6250 k. v. a., order for which was placed on February 27th, 1911.

The output of this machine, which began operation on November 17th, 1911, is delivered at the 60,000 volt system through three 2100 k. v. a. water cooled transformers, with a fourth similar unit in reserve.

Previous to the purchase of the second turbine, or to be exact, on February 25th, 1911, orders had been placed with the manufacturers for its steam equipment of four 604 horsepower boilers.

Early in 1913 it became evident that with the growth of the company's markets and the rather remarkable deficiency in rainfall for two seasons past, it would be expedient to provide additional steam generating capacity in this plant, and on April 1st order was placed for a third unit of 7800 k. v. a.

The increased capacity of this unit over the second was made possible by modification of the design in the interval between their manufacture, and the new unit occupies practically the same amount of floor and cubical space as its predecessor. To house this additional equipment it was necessary to extend the building to the south, by 60 feet on the turbine room, and 40 feet on the boiler room, these additions being carried to the full height of the original structure and in every respect symmetrical.

Three additional transformers, similar to those installed with the second unit, were purchased, and the necessary increase in steam capacity obtained by the installation of four additional 604 horsepower boilers.

At this writing the plant stands completed, for the three units installed, having a rated capacity of 16,550 k. v. a., and while this is presumably "maximum rating," experience has shown that they can be operated considerably above this capacity without distress.

The complement of boilers is somewhat less than would be advisable if the plant was expected to operate for long continued periods at rating or above. This condition has been anticipated, however, and it is planned to supersede the four 304 horsepower boilers by a like number of 604 horsepower, after which the plant will be dependable for continuous operation at rating and will have a symmetrical installation of six batteries of two boilers each, a total of 7248 boiler horsepower.

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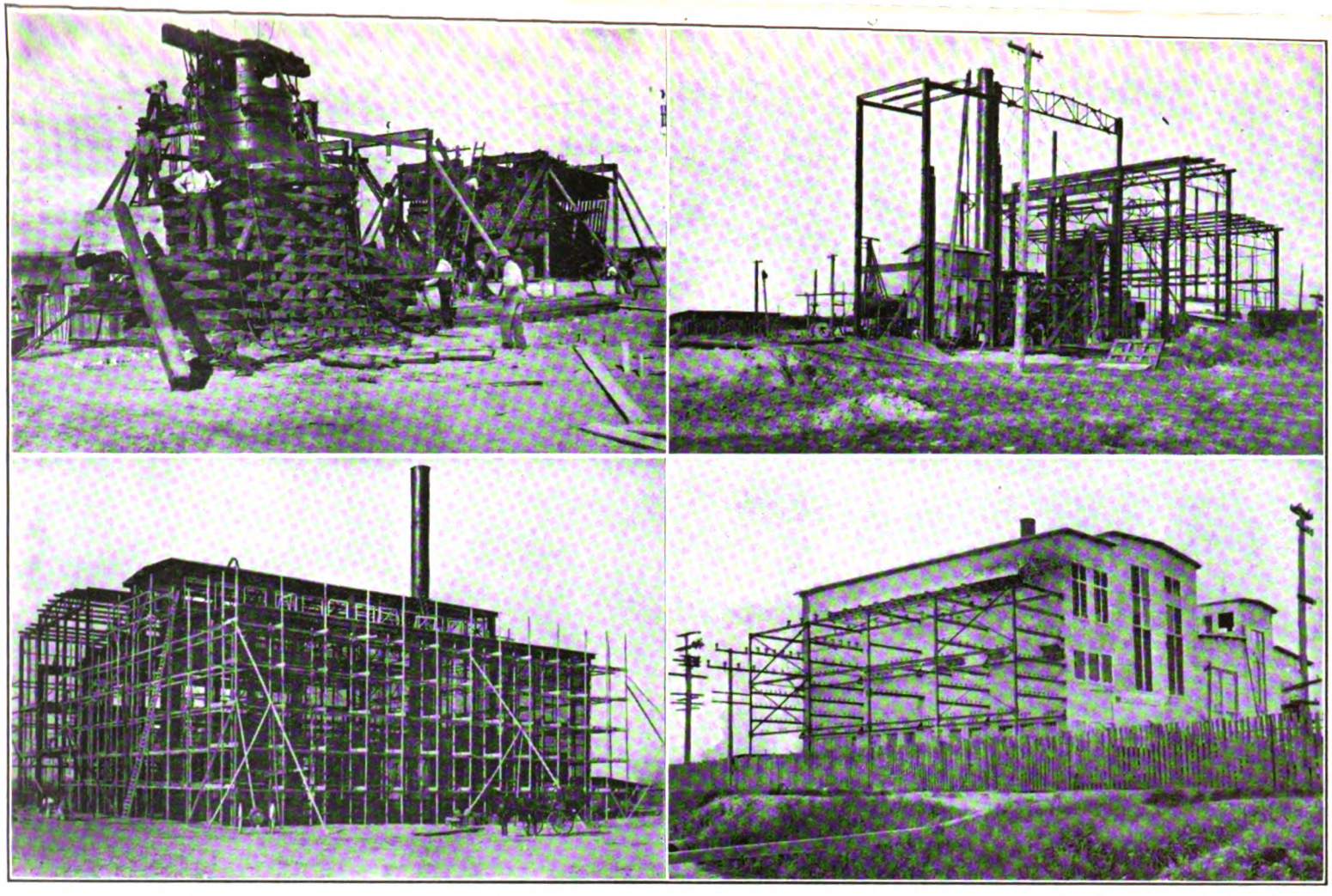

The original steam plant and steps in its construction—Upper left: erection of first battery of boilers and 750 k. v. a. temporary generating plant. Upper right: temporary unit in operation and erection of steel work begun. Lower left: steel frame completely erected; hy-rib steel being applied. Lower right: plant as completed for first unit showing location with reference to canal supplying circulating water

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With the increased capacity and importance of the station resulting from the addition of the third unit, it has been found expedient to modify the original arrangement for taking away the 60,000 volt feeders. These were planned to break two each north and south from the wire tower on the west side of the building. In order to secure the flexibility of a double bus these have now been taken across the station roof due east to towers situated about 300 feet from the plant, the four circuits being carried all wires in the same plane, on five foot minimum clearance. On each of the new towers are mounted a set of 3-phase disconnecting switches and cross connecting switches. An aerial bus connects the towers, and is so arranged that any circuit may be transferred and cross connected to any other circuit giving in effect with the station switching a complete double bus system on the 60,000 volt equipment.

Building

The power plant building is of fireproof construction with self-supporting steel frame and concrete walls and roof reinforced with "hy-rib" steel. The floor at ground level is of solid concrete; the gallery floors of concrete reinforced with wire mesh. Ventilation of building is facilitated by pivoting the end windows so as to deflect the prevailing summer winds from the northwest into the station, the air being forced out through pivoted windows near the roof. The forced ventilation of generators also assists in the ventilation of the turbine room.

The turbine room is approximately 40 feet wide by 145 feet long, the electrical galleries 20 feet by 145 feet; the boiler room, 81 feet 8 inches by 125 feet; the cubic continents of the building being approximately 880,000 feet.

Boilers

The steam generating equipment consists of twelve water tube boilers designed for 200 pounds working pressure. Of these four are of Babcock and Wilcox type, each rated at 304 horsepower; the remaining eight are Stirling type, rated at 604 horsepower each. The Stirling boilers are equipped with Babcock and Wilcox "U" type superheaters with sufficient surface to superheat the steam 100-125 degrees Fahrenheit. As the boilers operate under 200 pounds pressure, the total temperature of the steam produced is from 488 to 513 degrees.

Two of the B. & W. and all of the Stirling boilers are equipped for burning crude oil. The second battery of B. & W. boilers are fired with natural gas obtained from the company's mains.

Fuel

Oil storage to the amount of 2500 barrels is provided, a steel tank of that capacity being located near the plant, with due regard to supply from each of two side tracks of the S. P. Co. and convenient discharge to the boilers. The tank is buried to within one foot of its top and roofed to protect it from the direct rays of the sun. Provision is made for measuring the oil and a steam line provides for heating in cold weather and for fire suppression. It is planned to increase this storage capacity in the near future

Turbo Generators

There are three generating units installed, all horizontal turbines, operating condensing. The first of these of the Curtis type, manufactured by the General Electric Company, has a rated electrical capacity of 2500 k. v. a. with steam and designed for 2000 k. w. at 1800 r. p. m. 190 pounds steam, 100 degrees superheat and 28 inch vacuum. This machine has repeatedly developed 2750 k. w. for several hours. The second unit is an Allis Chalmers turbine of the Parsons type rated at 6250 k. v. a. with 5000 k. w. steam end at 1800 r. p. m. steam pressure and vacuum as before. This unit has operated at 6250 k. w. for the last several weeks. Number three turbine, recently installed, is also of the Allis Parsons type, and is rated 7800 k. v. a. with 6250 k. w. steam end. This machine has developed as high as 7800 k. w.

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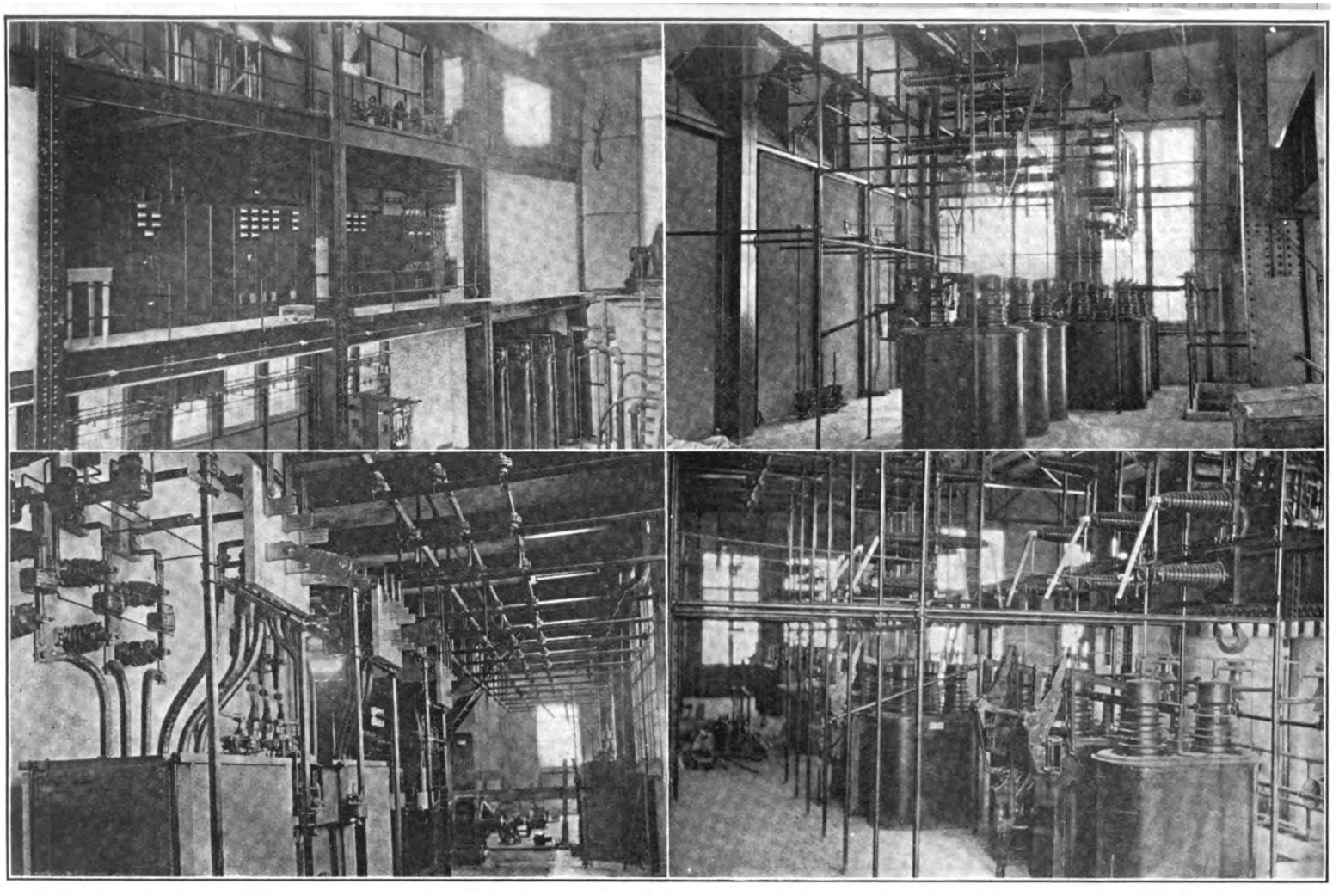

Upper left: Interior of plant showing switchboard and electrical layout. Upper right: North end of 60,000 volt gallery showing transformer and feeder switches and extension of bus bars to lightning arrester gallery. Lower left: Generator and transformer switch and bus bar arrangement, 2300 volt level. Lower right: One end of gallery showing the 10,000 volt switching equipment

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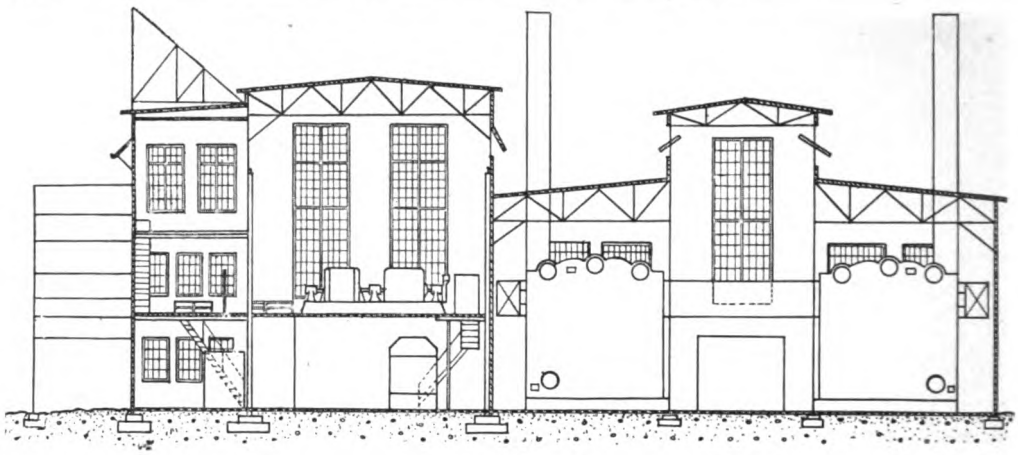

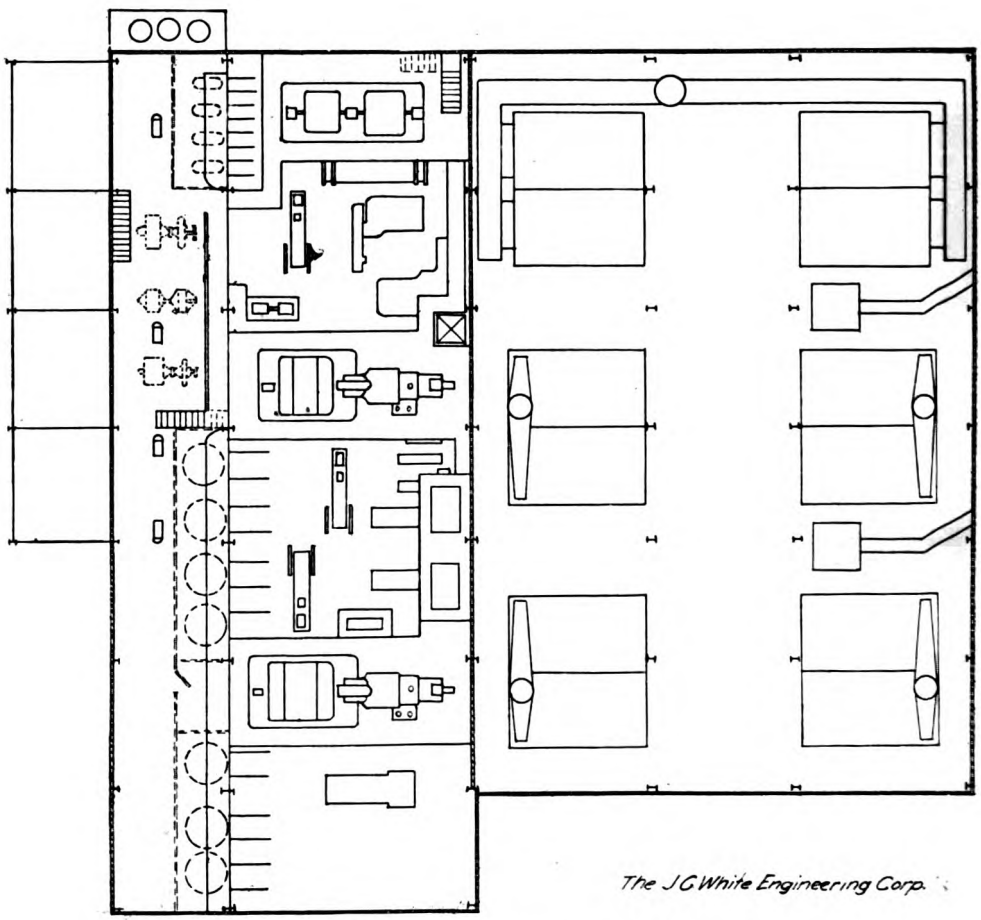

Bakersfield steam plant in plan and elevation

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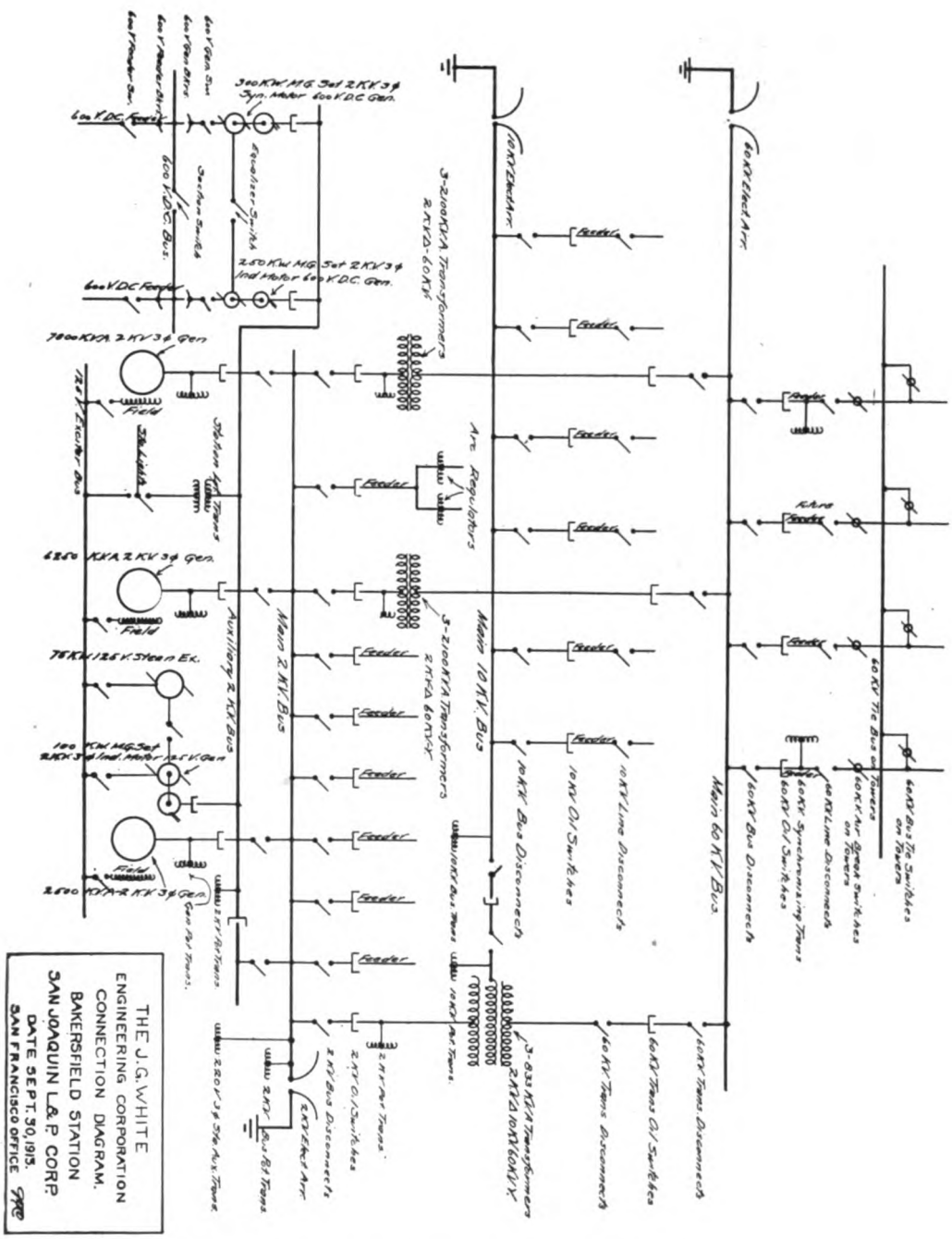

Wiring diagram showing method and plan of connection

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Condensers

Each turbine unit is operated with its own condenser. Number 1 condenser contains 6000 square feet of surface in three-quarter inch brass tubes; numbers 2 and 3 each have 15,000 square feet of surface in three-quarter inch and one inch brass tubes, respectively. Each turbine is so connected that it may be operated non-condensing if necessary. Hotwell pumps used to convey the water of condensation from the condensers to the feed water heaters are so connected that in the event of an accident a spare pump can pick up the load at once. The circulating water system is so designed that any pump can operate on any of the condenser units and the capacity of these pumps is such that any two can furnish sufficient water to enable all the turbines to run condensing, at a slightly reduced vacuum. The two larger rotary dry vacuum pumps, for removing the non-condensable vapors from the condensers, are cross connected in the same manner.

Heaters

Two feed water heaters of the Cochrane open type, as manufactured by the Harrison Safety Boiler Company, provide means for heating the feed water before it enters the boilers. Each of these heaters is rated 4000 horsepower and sufficient exhaust steam and water from condensed steam is available to assure a temperature approximately 200 degrees Fahrenheit.

Pumps

For supplying water to the boilers there are two turbine driven Alberger multi-stage centrifugal pumps, each having a capacity of 600 gallons per minute, an amount somewhat in excess of the total requirements of the plant. The turbines on these pumps are non-condensing and are of about 137 horsepower each. In addition there are two Worthington 9 inch and 5 inch by 10 inch plunger type pressure pumps for use in filling boilers and other miscellaneous purposes.

For delivery of oil to burners there are two units of two each Smith-Vaile piston pumps, 5¼ inch and 4¾ inch by 5 inch, with two exhaust heaters and one live steam heater. By the use of both high and low pressure heaters it is possible to maintain an oil temperature of approximately 180 degrees under the most severe operating conditions.

In conjunction with the number 1 condenser there is one 6 inch and 7¼ inch by 6 inch piston type pump to remove the condensate from condenser shell; on number 2 and 3 condensers there are three centrifugal condensate pumps, two 4 inch and one 3 inch, the two former turbine driven and the latter motor driven. To number 1 condenser there is connected one 10 inch and 18 inch by 18 inch Alberger rotary dry vacuum pump of the tandem cylinder center crank type; each of the other condensers is equipped with one 12 inch and 30 inch by 18 inch Alberger air pump of the same general type.

Water Supply

Water for condensing is obtained from an irrigation canal about 75 feet west of the plant. On the side of the canal nearest the station is an intake and screen chamber which is connected with the circulating pump suctions by two 26 inch cast iron pipe lines. This intake is provided with duplicate screens throughout its length. Two of the circulating pumps are of the horizontal centrifugal single stage type driven by Harrisburg tandem-compound non-condensing engines 9 inch and 17 inch by 12 inch. Each of these pumps supplies approximately 10,000 gallons per minute. The third unit is of the centrifugal multi-stage type driven by an Alberger-Curtis non-condensing steam turbine, and has a capacity in excess of 15,000 gallons per minute.

Water for boilers is supplied by two wells about 90 feet deep. Two pumps, one centrifugal and one piston type, pump the water to a 2500 gallon steel tank, supported on the roof members of the boiler room, from which point

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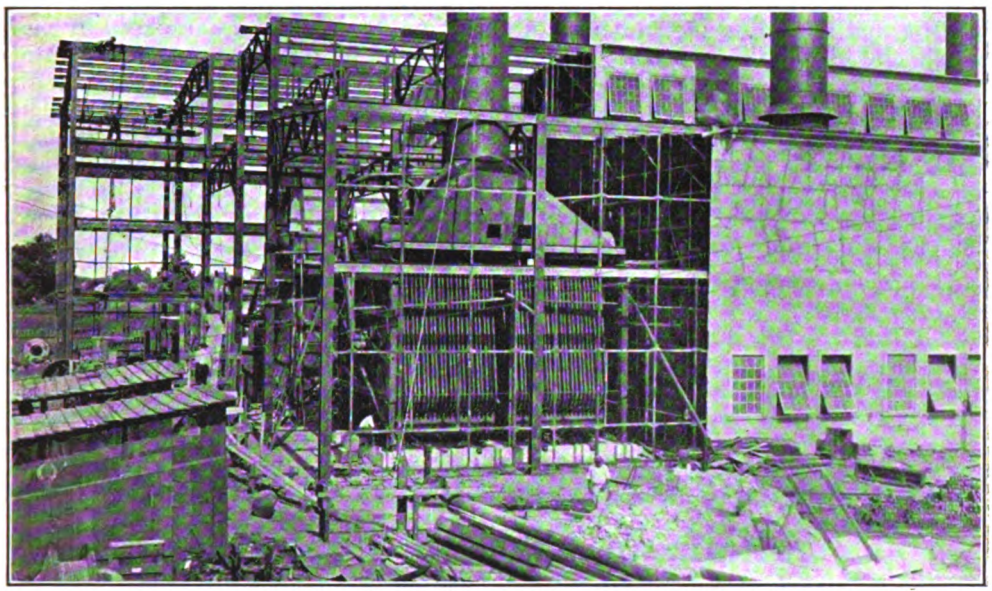
it flows by gravity to the various piping systems it supplies. The combined capacity of these wells is in excess of 300 gallons per minute.

Exciters

Excitation for turbines is furnished by one 75 k. w. Curtis turbine driven exciter and one 100 k. w. motor generator set, both supplied by the General Electric Company and both wound for 125 volts. In addition to their use as exciters these units supply power to the 35-ton Shaw electric traveling crane, motor driven portable air compressor, and for emergency station lighting.



Extension of plant to house third unit and its boilers and auxiliaries

Piping

The main steam piping is designed for 200 pounds working pressure and 100 degrees superheat. The steam leads from each boiler to main header are 6 inch, the header is 10 inch; the connection from the header to each of the large turbines is 10 inches and to the smaller unit 8 inches. Joints in the main steam lines are of the Van Stone type, with steel flanges. All fittings and valves in these lines are of steel. Each boiler is equipped with a Schutte and Koerting automatic non-return stop and check valve which in the event of an accident to a boiler confines the loss of steam to that particular boiler as these valves automatically close when pressure on the boiler side is reduced below the working pressure of the system. The leads to each of the turbines is provided with a Schutte and Koerting emergency remote control valve, permitting any unit to be shut off from a distance in case of accident to turbine or steam pipe supplying it. All other valves used are of Crane Company manufacture. Expansion is taken care of by means of ample bends in each steam line and the main header. In each turbine lead is placed a steel steam separator of the receiver type. All steam and exhaust lines, feed water heaters, traps, etc., are insulated with 85 per cent carbonate of magnesia covering, the thickness varying with the service required.

Electrical Equipment

The electrical control equipment and busses are located in galleries, and on the main floor beneath them, in the

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west side of the turbine room. On the main floor are located four 833 k. v. a. water cooled transformers of General Electric manufacture wound for 2300-11,000/40,000-60,000 Y volts; seven 2100 k. v. a. water cooled transformers, supplied by the Allis-Chalmers Company, wound 2300-40,000-60,000 Y volts; one 225 k. w. and one 300 k. w. General Electric railway motor generator sets, the 2300 volt main bus and oil switches, and switchboard for control of the auxiliaries.

On the second floor is located the 11,000 volt bus and oil switches, and the main switchboard, containing 24 panels of black slate mounting the indicating and recording instruments, oil switch and rheostatic control, dummy bus, etc., etc. The 60,000 volt bus and oil switches are located on the third gallery. Both the 11,000 volt and the 60,000 volt busses are of copper tubing; the 2300 volt bus of copper bar. All switches are of the K type, General Electric make, and are remote electrically controlled. All A. C. instruments are of the horizontal edgewise Thompson inclined coil type. All D. C. instruments are of the astatic type, General Electric manufacture. Electrolytic lightning arresters also of General Electric manufacture are provided for each of the three operating voltages connected to extensions of the several busses. The 60,000 volt arrester is installed on a gallery at the north end of the building. The 2300 and 11,000 arresters are of the indoor type.

Due to the rapid changes which have taken place in this station since its inception in 1910, there have been but relatively short intervals when its operation has not been hampered by construction in progress. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, however, the operating record of the plant is excellent and to Chief Engineer A. Y. Meudell and his staff is due the congratulations of our company's engineers and their thanks for unfailing courtesy shown them during periods of construction.

Wasco Colony Receives Honor of Growing Best Alfalfa in State of California

The best alfalfa in the State of California is grown in the Wasco Colony of Kern County. Competing against exhibits from 32 counties the product of this section won the first prize at the San Francisco Land Show last month. The honor is a signal one as alfalfa growing has come to be one of the state's chief farming industries and competition in the alfalfa contest was extremely keen.

The Fowler ranch west of the town of Wasco furnished the alfalfa which won the prize. It was a fair sample of the alfalfa grown all over this section as Mr. Fowler in choosing it picked it at random from his field. It is no better than a large percentage of other alfalfa grown hereabouts, but according to the judges at the Land Show it was far superior to anything exhibited there.

Wasco also came to the front at the show with millet and Egyptian wheat, the only other two products from this district that were included in Kern County's exhibit. The millet came from the ranch of G. Paggi north of Wasco, and the Egyptian wheat from W. G. Van Slyke's place adjoining the townsite on the south.

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Citrus Growers of Tulare County to Celebrate Success of Industry with a Fair

By MORLEY M. MADDOX, Editor Visalia TIMES

ALTHOUGH the great San Joaquin Valley last winter experienced the most severe weather in its history and for a while it was feared that the citrus fruit industry would receive something of a setback as a result of frosts that occurred generally over a period of several days, it has turned out that very little damage indeed was done to the orange or lemon groves. The most abundant and remarkable crop in the history of the citrus fruit industry of Central California is now being harvested in Tulare County. The best available estimates of the orange output of this one county this year run from 4500 to 5000 carloads, of a value approximating $4,000,000. There are now planted in Tulare County 40,000 acres to oranges alone, with a considerable additional acreage to lemons and pomelos, or grape fruit. Only about one-third of this acreage is yet in full bearing and a large part of it has not yet reached the producing stage.

The development of the citrus fruit industry in the San Joaquin Valley, especially in Tulare County, has been one of the marvels of western horticulture. It was only a little more than twenty years ago that the first trees were set out as an experiment in the Porterville section. They were found to do well and to produce an excellent quality of fruit. Nobody at that time, however, ever seriously thought that orange growing would ever be commercially profitable in this section of the state. Even a hint at such a probability found no word of encouragement from one's neighbors, while it brought a storm of jeers from the southern part of the state, supposed at that time to have a monopoly on the citrus fruit industry in California. Time has worked wonders, however. It was demonstrated by the pioneers of the industry in Tulare County that not only would oranges and lemons do exceedingly well along the foothills, but that they ripened here from one month to six weeks earlier than in the most favored sections south of the Tehachapi. It was also discovered that certain pests that are the source of much annoyance and expense in the southern part of the state do not find the climate of Tulare County congenial and they refuse to dwell here. Other pests have been kept out by the vigilant eyes of the county horticultural commissioner and his deputies, so that now Tulare County's citrus fruit groves are absolutely the cleanest in the state. Nobody ever questions that fact any more, and it is an item to be considered. It was proven that the red adobe soil of the foothill belt is particularly adapted to the growing of all kinds of citrus fruit trees. When it was found that just below the surface of the ground, in practically all parts of the foothill section, there was an inexhaustible supply of water that could be brought up for irrigation at a low cost by the use of electricity, it seemed that Tulare County's supremacy as a citrus fruit producer could no longer be questioned. For several years the industry has enjoyed something approaching a boom, and the supply of trees available has alone limited the acreage set out. Handsome profits have been made by practically all who invested their money in the growing of oranges and lemons. There yet remained the decisive test of a cold winter. Last year it came along, the most severe since weather records have been kept in the valley, or half a century. Tulare County's groves escaped almost unharmed and the coldest weather ever known here is followed by a bumper crop of oranges which it is believed will pack 95 per cent "fancy,"

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with the remainder standard, and the percentage of culls and "splits" practically negligible. The future of this industry in Tulare County is now absolutely assured, while in some parts of the state, where citrus fruit culture has been looked upon as safe and profitable, there is not such an optimistic spirit.

It is not the purpose of this article, however, to detail at any length the growth of the citrus fruit industry in Tulare County or to dwell upon the profits that have been made and can be made by engaging in it. This is written to call attention to the Tulare County Citrus Fair, which will be held in Visalia from December 4th to 13th, inclusive, and which gives every promise of being the most interesting and successful exhibition of its kind in the history of California To guarantee the success of this fair business men of Visalia recently raised a guarantee fund of $12,000 in three days An executive committee was appointed by the Visalia Board of Trade consisting of the following named: President, J. Sub Johnson, president of the Tulare County Board of Trade; secretary, J. T. Boyer, secretary of the Visalia Board of Trade; directors, Geo. A. Fleming, local representative of a large fruit packing company, and Ben M. Maddox.

The members of this committee are literally at work night and day attending to the many details that arise in preparing for the big show. A monster pavilion that will contain 30,000 square feet of floor space was under course of construction at the time this was being written, and practically every citrus fruit producing community in the county had spoken for space. Tulare County people are very proud of the fact that their county will ship to market this year more oranges than any other county in California. They invite a critical examination of the high quality fruit that will be on display at their fair and hope, in addition, that all visitors will take advantage of the opportunity to take a trip through the citrus fruit belt, where the harvesting of the crop will be under full headway. The view accompanying this article was taken at the

Scene in one of Tulare County's largest orchards during the picking season

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big Merryman grove near Exeter several weeks ago. From this grove this season oranges were shipped earlier than ever before in the history of California, ten carloads having left San Francisco for Australia on October 11.

The Tulare County Citrus Fair, however, will be something more than the name implies, for all of the various horticultural and agricultural products of the county will be on display. Especial attention will be paid to the dairying industry, while a poultry show in connection promises to be the most interesting of its kind ever held in this part of California. Many high-class attractions will entertain visitors night and day. A 30-piece band has been secured for the entire period of the fair. Altogether this fair promises to be well worth seeing and thousands of visitors are confidently expected. Special rates have been offered by both the Santa Fe and Southern Pacific, which railroads are aiding materially in advertising the fair, and the first citrus display of Tulare County promises to be an unbounded success.

California Produced $92,000,000 Worth of Minerals Last Year—Leads in Gold and Oil

California, first among the states west of the Mississippi and fifth among all the states in the total value of its mineral production, rests its principal claim to distinction as a mineral producer on its output of petroleum. In this it leads all the other states, as does Pennsylvania in the production of coal. The total value of the mineral production in 1912, according to Edward W. Parker, of the United State Geological Survey, was $92,837,374, an increase of $2,216,730 over 1911.

In the quantity of petroleum produced California is credited with nearly 40 per cent of the total output of the United States. The gold produced in California holds second place in the mineral production of the state, and first place among the states. Petroleum and gold represent about 42 and 23 per cent respectively of California's mineral output.

Next to gold the principal metal product of California is copper, the production of which decreased from 36,316,136 pounds in 1911 to 33,451,672 pounds in 1912, but the value increased from $4,539,517 to $5,519,526.

The relatively small production of silver is recovered largely by a by-product in the copper mines. The production of lead and zinc is unimportant.

One of the important industries in California is the manufacture of Portland cement, the value of the product exceeding $8,000,000 in both 1911 and 1912.

The clay products of the state increased nearly a million dollars in 1912 over 1911, being, respectively, $5,912,450 and $4,915,866.

The total value of the quarry products, which consist chiefly of granite, trap rock, and limestone, decreased from $4,676,902 in 1911 to $3,902,313 in 1912.

The other mineral products of the state which exceeded a million dollars in value in 1912 were asphalt, $2,186,403; borax, $1,127,813; and natural gas, $1,134,456.

In addition to being first in the production of petroleum and gold, California is also the premier producing state in asphalt and quicksilver and enjoys a monopoly in the production of borax and magnesite, the combined value of these substances being over $3,000,000. The other mineral products of commercial importance in California are chromite, coal, feldspar, fuller's earth, gem materials, gypsum, infusorial earth, iron ore, lime, manganese ore, mineral paints, mineral waters, platinum, pumice, pyrite, quartz (brasive), salt, sand and gravel, sand-lime brick, sulphuric acid, talc, and tungsten (concentrates).

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Something About Transmission Line Surveying and Making of Topographic Maps

By WM. STRANAHAN, Civil Engineer Operation Department

THE editor of the Magazine asked me some time ago if I would not tell him something about the surveying of transmission lines. The first thing of course is to know where the line is to go. In most of the territory in the San Joaquin Valley we can take a county atlas and lay out a proposed line along the county roads and follow pretty closely the desired route without crossing private property. In rough mountain country, however, it is necessary to change this survey several times to get the best route, taking into consideration the character of the country as to its accessibility for line building, getting materials in and for ease of patrol after completion.

In making the preliminary survey we find the topographic maps of the United States Geological Survey a great help wherever we can use them, for by showing the roads and topography of the country we are able to see in a general way the best course to take before starting out. All of the lines I have run have been done with a transit and stadia rod, which is divided into feet and tenths. In this way I am able to get the course and distance direct, without the use of a chain, and with the assistance of but one man to act as rodman. In brushy country it is also necessary to have an axeman or two cutting brush and cleaning the line.

After the course is decided upon, the stakes are set. The distance between these varies with the size of the transmission line, height of poles and character of the country. On the 60,000 volt lines wherever possible stakes have been set 350 feet apart, the exceptions being at road crossings, railroad crossings, corners where the turning angle is large and over the tops of hills where the curve of the hill would cause the wire to be too close to the ground. In crossing narrow canyons and gulches we are often able to lengthen the spans considerably as there is plenty of room for clearance of the wires above the ground.

A complete record is kept of the course in degrees and minutes, the numbers of the stakes with distances between, a description of the country showing whether stakes are along roads and upon which side, on hills or in bottoms, whether near fences, houses and other structures, and where guys are to go for turns in the line or for line support. Each stake is marked with the number and letter showing the type of construction, so the construction crew can tell as soon as they come to a stake what is to be done. Certain letters are used for designating the class of construction on the poles. Thus the letter "A" shows that the regular triangle construction is to be used and as that is the general form for high tension lines it is understood that the line is "A" construction unless otherwise marked. The letter "B" designates a line guy and these are placed usually every half mile. The letter "C" is used where the line is to be deadened for holding the strain. Where a turn of several degrees angle is to be made, as at a road corner, we have a "C" pole about 75 feet from the corner, and at the corner the pole which is to be guyed. This is designated by the letter "D." Seventy-five feet from this pole on the other side of the angle another "C" pole is set. Where we wish the wires in a vertical plane on the pole instead of a triangle construction, the letter "E" has been used. The letter "F" means that the construction on the pole is to be flat, that is, the crossarm is to go across at the top of the pole. All stakes showing where the anchor slugs are to go into the ground are marked

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"G." It sometimes happens that it is desired to place the crossarms between the triangle and flat construction, and in that case we mark the stake "SF," meaning semi-flat. In this way the construction crew can go ahead much more rapidly as they do not have to be continually referring to their notes when they come to the stakes.

In making a survey across country where private land is to be crossed, a record has to be kept showing at what stake we enter and leave each person's land and the number of poles there will be across his land. We often have considerable trouble getting permission to cross private property as in a great many cases the owners do not wish the poles on their land under any circumstances. In many cases the stakes have had to be removed several times to satisfy the pleasure of the property owners, even after he had given permission to cross at a certain place. After the survey has been completed a map is made showing the line and all ownerships along the same. Each pole is shown by a small circle in its proper place and numbered and lettered. As the lines must be plotted according to the public lines of the county, it is necessary in making the survey to tie it in to certain known land corners by running a survey to such corner. As most of the section lines through a hilly country were surveyed many years ago and as there has been little occasion for their being re-run, the corners are often impossible to find as all marks have been obliterated. This, of course, requires much work and it is here that the United States Geological Survey maps are of much use.

As the topographic maps of the United States Geological Survey are becoming in such general use, it may be of interest to know just how they are made. It was the writer's good fortune to be employed several years in the United States Geological Survey and to have become familiar with the topographic map through all processes from the plain sheet of drawing paper to the finished printed atlas sheet for which we pay ten cents at the local stationery stores.

The first thing in making a topographic map of a certain section of the country is to get some triangulation or primary traverse covering the area to be mapped, locating a number of known points of latitude and longitude. In mountainous country usually three common mountain peaks within the area are marked with triangulation stations, usually a large wooden tripod built over a metal plate cemented in a rock. These stations are located as to their latitude and longitude and are plotted upon a double sheet of mounted drawing paper. This paper is double to make it less susceptible to changes in the atmosphere.

Accurate levels are run across some portion of the area to be mapped and prominent bench marks set, and these levels are then used as a base of all contour work upon the sheet. The topographer is now ready to start out with his alidade and plane table upon which has been pasted a sheet of paper showing three or more triangulation stations. At the end of the season, or in many cases seasons, he brings in the completed map of the fifteen minutes latitude or longitude containing approximately 500 or 100 square miles, as the case may be. Upon this completed map he has shown the relief of the country, including mountains, hills, valleys, cliffs; the water of the country, such as ponds, lakes, swamps, rivers, canals, creeks, and the culture of the country, or works by man, such as cities, towns, roads, railroads, and boundaries. The relief is shown by contour lines in brown. Each contour passes through points which have the same altitude, thus showing not only the shapes of hills and plains but also the elevation. All water features are shown in blue and the culture, or work of man, is shown in black. I might go into details of how the topographer goes over practically every foot of these 500 or 1000 square miles, climbing mountain peaks, sighting and taking angles to dozens of points and prominent features at each point, often camping there over night to prevent making the same trip next day.

In the field the topographer draws

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in which pencils all of the lines and when he goes back to his office in the winter the map is drawn in three colors and lettered complete to go to the photographer. As soon as the map is completed it is photographed and several copies are printed for preservation in case of accident to the original drawing. A map is then sent to the Map Editor of the Geological Survey, who edits it thoroughly as to the spelling of all names. Any questions in regard to the names goes to the Geological Board of Geological Names for decision. From the editor the map goes to the Engraving Division where it is photographed on a celluloid negative to publication scale, and from this negative it is transferred by a sulphur process to three brightly burnished copper plates, upon one of which is engraved all that part for printing in brown, another all to be printed in blue, and the third all to be printed in black. Every line and every letter is engraved upon the proper plate by hand by expert copper plate engravers. The plates are then cleaned, taking off all marks which are not to be printed on that particular plate. The plates then go to the press room where hand proofs are pulled from each plate, these going to the editorial room for comparison with the original. After the corrections, if any, are made, the work is transferred to the lithographic stones, one each for the blue, brown and black prints. This is done by using a specially prepared paper and ink which readily leaves the lines of the copper plate and adheres to the paper when run through a hand press, forcing the paper smoothly to the plate. The paper is very tough and when pulled from the face of the plate retains its size and shape. It is then laid face down upon the smooth surface of the lithographic stone and then run through the hand press, after which the paper is washed off with a soft sponge and water, leaving each line in ink upon the lighographic stone. The surface of the stone is then lightly washed with acid, leaving the ink lines slightly raised about the surface of the stone. Proofs are then taken from the separate lithographic stones and examined before combining. The three stones are printed upon one sheet and examined particularly as to the register of streams and other features relative to the contours and culture. After the Editorial Division has finally passed upon the combination proof, the order for printing the edition, generally 5000, is given and the stones go to the press room. Usually the black stone is printed first, and the edition of 5000 is run from that. Then the brown stone is put in the press and one of the sheets carefully registered to it and a guide set when the edition is again run. After that the same process is gone through with the blue stone. When this run is completed, the map is ready for distribution and is sent to the salesroom where for the small price of five cents anyone may secure a finished copy.

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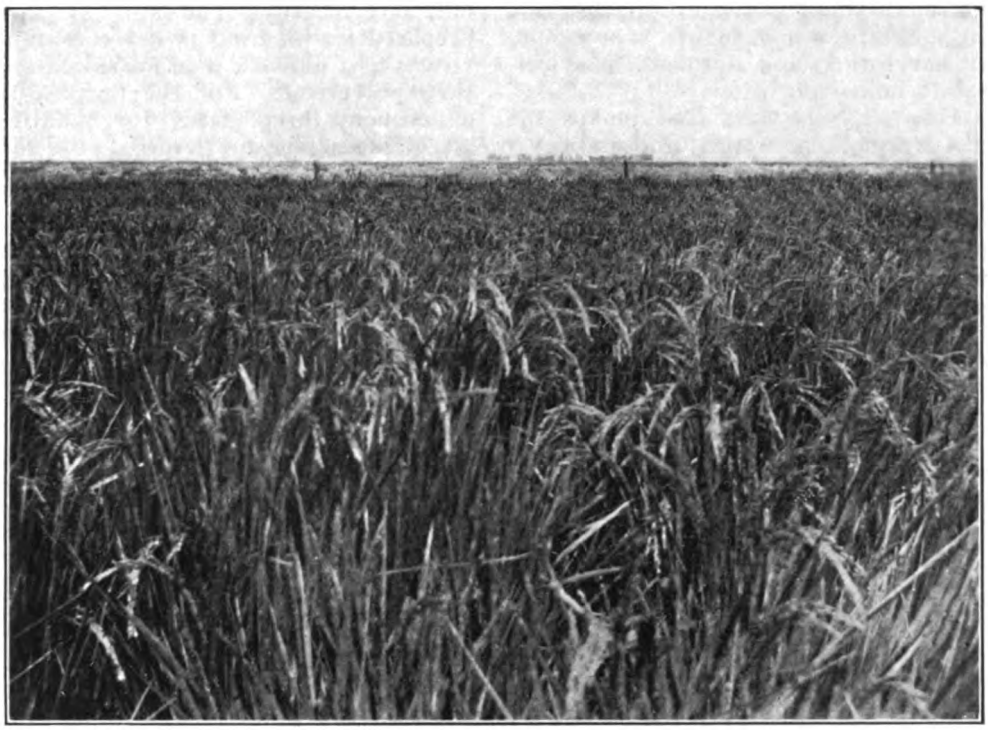

View across the Peters rice field showing the rank growth of the plants which are headed and almost ready for harvesting

Rice Successfully Grown on Alkali Lands and May Reclaim a Big Area

ON HIS ranch near Pond, Jesse Peters, a Kern County rancher, this year successfully grew rice on heavily laden alkali land and as the result there are fine prospects for the reclamation of miles upon miles of "chewing gum" land which had always been regarded as practically worthless until some means should be discovered to eliminate the element of alkali. Apparently Mr. Peters has solved the problem with rice growing for he has proved that this plant will thrive equally as well in alkali soil as in soil that is non-alkali, and his successful experiment is now receiving much attention.

The character of the soil in this locality, evidently, is just what is required for successful rice growing. It is permeated with both black and white alkali and in such quantity as to give it the sticky, elastic appearance of rubber. It is a common expression among land men familiar with the soil in this district that enough chewing gum and boot soles could be cut from this part of the valley to supply the world's needs for years to come. It has always been a problem to persons owning tracts in the district what to do with their land. When rain falls it is impossible to work the land and when the water dries off, the soil closes up, forming a hard, impenetrable shell thus shutting out the elements of the air necessary for the growth of plant life. Apparently this characteristic is favorable for rice growing, for the rice re-

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quires a stand of water on the land from the time it is planted almost until harvesting, and this land most certainly holds the water.

However, the fact that makes the discovery of so much importance is that rice gives prospect of supplying the humus that has been lacking in this kind of land. The rice roots form a thick mat a few inches below the surface, and it is to be determined if this growth will not counteract the effect of the alkali, and permit the raising of other crops, after the initial planting to rice. If so, the reclamation of many thousands of acres, now regarded as useless because of the alkali deposits, will be possible.

Near view of the rice headed and almost ready for harvesting. Height to which the plant grows is shown by man standing on the right. Note how the ground is flooded.

The Peters Ranch lies six miles west and one and one-half miles south of Pond, a small station on the Santa Fe Railroad in the northern part of Kern County. A tract of fifteen acres, heavily laden with both black and white alkali, was chosen for the experiment. The land was first leveled and checked the same as would be done for alfalfa growing, each check being about one-half acre in area. The land was then prepared for planting in dry condition. It was first plowed, then harrowed and then pulverized. For the purpose of experiment three dates for planting were chosen, the first April 1, the second April 15, and the last May 1. It was found that the planting of April 15th gave the best results, thus indicating that under the local conditions this date is about the right time to plant. Seventy-five pounds of rice, approximately three-quarters of a sack, was planted to the acre. It was sown dry and then drilled in to a depth of half an inch, after which the water was immediately turned on. Enough water was supplied to keep the stand from six to eight inches deep all of the time, and it was kept on the land until the grain began to fill in the heads. This was about the first of September and two weeks later the heads had matured and harvesting was begun.

The crop is harvested by threshing, the same as wheat, and especially constructed harvesters may be obtained for the work. Mr. Peters, however,

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did not have the right kind of machinery and as the result lost a great deal of his crop in the cutting. He used a binder, which just cut off the heads. The stalks were then cut by a second operation and fed to the horses and cows. Both animals seemed to like it and did well on it. The feed from this source was considerable as the rice had a rank growth and attained a height of from three to three and one-half feet.

After threshing, the grain is sacked, each sack filled weighing from 100 to 110 pounds. A fair price to the grower is 3 cents a pound. From his fifteen acres Mr. Peters harvested 349 sacks, but under the more favorable conditions, had he been supplied with the proper machinery for harvesting, his returns would have been very much larger.

However, Mr. Peters is very much satisfied as the result of this season's experiment and he expects, by the experience gained from this planting, to be able to grow a very much larger crop next year. He believes that the land upon which he grew rice this year will be ready to be sowed to barley next season and he is going to make the experiment. A larger crop of rice will be planted but it is to be on heretofore untilled land. If the barley thrives on last season's rice land, the experiment will be carried still further and another advanced crop planted the third season.

Interest has been awakened among owners of land in this locality in rice culture and it is probable that many individuals will make experiments along the lines pursued by Mr. Peters. Miller and Lux, Incorporated, however, have had the plan of rice culture in mind for some time past and they are now making arrangements for the planting of a considerable area of their holding in Kern County. Surveyors have been in the field for some time setting out a tract and it is likely that the slough territory around Button Willow will be a heavy producer of the grain the coming season.

View showing method of checking and height to which the water stands in the checks. Barren alkali soil surrounds this fertile patch.

Rice farming is not entirely a new industry in California, for the Sacramento Valley has been producing good yields for several years past. Throughout that district a good warehouse business in handling rice is being developed and now that it has been demonstrated that this foodstuff can be successfully raised, it promises to become an extensive industry. Market statistics show that the annual consumption of rice in California to amount to about 35,000,000 pounds, and as it will be some years before the state's output will reach this figure, the prospects for

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growers appear bright for some time to come.

The center of the new industry in the Sacramento Valley is Biggs, and in Butte County alone more than 3000 acres have been planted. The yield there this season has averaged from 2500 to 3000 pounds to the acre. The season's output of the Sacramento Valley is estimated at 15,000,000 pounds.

The United States Government first began experimenting with rice planting in this state and when the experimental stations showed that it could be successfully grown, individuals took up the planting. It has been proved that a Japanese variety, Watabune, thrives best in the Sacramento Valley and that the most favorable type of soil is a medium loam containing about fifty per cent of clay and underlaid with a hardpan or clay layer which is impervious to water.

The conditions on the Peters Ranch in the San Joaquin Valley are as opposite as day and night, and in the light of all former experiments and accepted principles the success in the alkali laden soil, if it is to become general, may be expected to revolutionize the industry as well as making a valuable producing territory out of land that heretofore had been a barren waste.

Thriving Alpaugh Colony Rapidly Coming to the Front as a Dairying Community

The many carloads of alfalfa and grain hay shipped from Stoil, Angiola and Allensworth by Alpaugh ranchers give the impression that Alpaugh is solely a hay market, but anyone visiting the territory, especially anyone interested in dairying and dairy stock, is impressed with the size of the dairy interests in that rapidly developing district. There are several herds of dairy cows, ranging from twenty to thirty head, and some of smaller size ranging from six to ten head. Although dairying at Alpaugh is practically a new departure, there can be found among its herds record making full-bloods of which any fancy breeder might be proud. Taken as a whole, although the original stock was bought at auction sales, in the majority of cases the Alpaugh dairyman has been breeding up by purchasing registered males until the Alpaugh dairy heard will average up with any in the San Joaquin Valley. J. J. Chambers, an enthusiastic Alpaugh dairyman, is doing much to advance the dairy interest in this vicinity. Mr. Chambers favors the Holstein and has several registered cows that have records for milk production and butter fat, and has a very fine registered male at the head of a herd of forty-seven. F. J. Robejohannes, another Alpaugh dairy enthusiast, has a herd of 17 full-blooded Jerseys, among them some very fine young cows with first calf that are heavy milkers, with a high testing average. There is a full-blooded male with this herd. H. H. Cathcart has a mixed grade and full-blood herd of 25 head, all good heavy milkers. Mr. Cathcart favors the Holstein and has a registered male from which he has several head of young heifers that give good promise. The herd of Jacob Souke of 40 head must not be overlooked as they are among the best in Alpaugh and consist of full-bloods and good grades. Mr. Souke is another Holstein fancier and has a full-blood male.

Among the smaller herds can be found several cows fit to grace the show ring of any fair, having the combination of ability to produce and perfection of figure. Among the dairies of this class can be mentioned those of J. C. Foss, Frank J. Cook, A. L. McCulloch, George Goodrich, Chas. Julian, W. Hindes, George Kundsen, S. A. Thomas, M. Siebert, A. Souke and R. Stansbury.

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Wealth of California is Making Wonderful Increase—Big Gain During Past Year

The assessed valuation of all property in California is $3,114,136,640, a gain of $194,793,751 over 1912, according to figures compiled in the state controller's office from reports submitted by county assessors and the state board of equalization. It is estimated by the controller that this grand total valuation runs from 46 to 60 per cent of the actual valuation of California property. In some counties the assessment for local taxes is made on the basis of a 40 per cent valuation, and in others it runs as high as 60 per cent.

Segregated the assessed valuations totaled for the entire state are: Real estate, $1,659,206,563; improvements, on real estate, $638,374,074; personal property, $301,348,663; money and solvent credits, $34,620,769; operative property assessed only for the Panama—Pacific Exposition, at a rate of .042 cents, $329,472,829; railroads, assessed by the state board of equalization, $151,113,742.

The floating and funded indebtedness of thirty counties, the only ones of the fifty-eight with liabilities, totals $47,346,540. Residents of Yuba and Mono counties, with an outside tax rate of $2.50 each, will have to pay the greatest proportion for taxes, while Alameda County, with an outside rate of $1.22, and an inside rate of 82 cents, has the smallest tax rate. Kern County is the next lowest, with an inside rate of 90 cents and an outside rate of $1.25.

Alpine, Mariposa, Mono, Plumas and Trinity counties contain no incorporated cities, and consequently have no inside rate. San Francisco city and county is the only county without an outside rate.

Los Angeles leads the state in the valuations furnished the controller, with a total of $804,111,796, as compared with $726,110,668 in 1912. San Francisco is second with valuations of $624,182,130, as compared with $605,141,664 last year. In real estate improvements San Francisco leads Los Angeles with a valuation of $157,378,977, and $150,341,295, respectively.

Counties with property valuations over $60,000,000 are: Alameda, $256,-36',895; Fresno, $92,261,816; Sacramento, $91,000,053; Kern, $80,529,757; Santa Clara, $80,072,624; San Diego, $73,685,084; San Joaquin, $65,557,627; San Bernardino, $60,176,743.

Basing his estimate on a population of 2,700,000 in California, the state controller estimates the average wealth of each man, woman and child is $1153.33 for taxable purposes, including railroad valuations.

The gains in assessed valuations for this year over 1912 are: Real estate, $88,104,654; real estate improvements, $47,044,560; personal property, $17,207,544; money and solvent credits, $5,661,850; operative property, $33,033,014; railroads, $3,742,132.

The enormous amount of money spent during the winter of 1912 and spring of 1913 for automobiles, it is said, is largely responsible for the increase of more than $17,000,000 in personal property.

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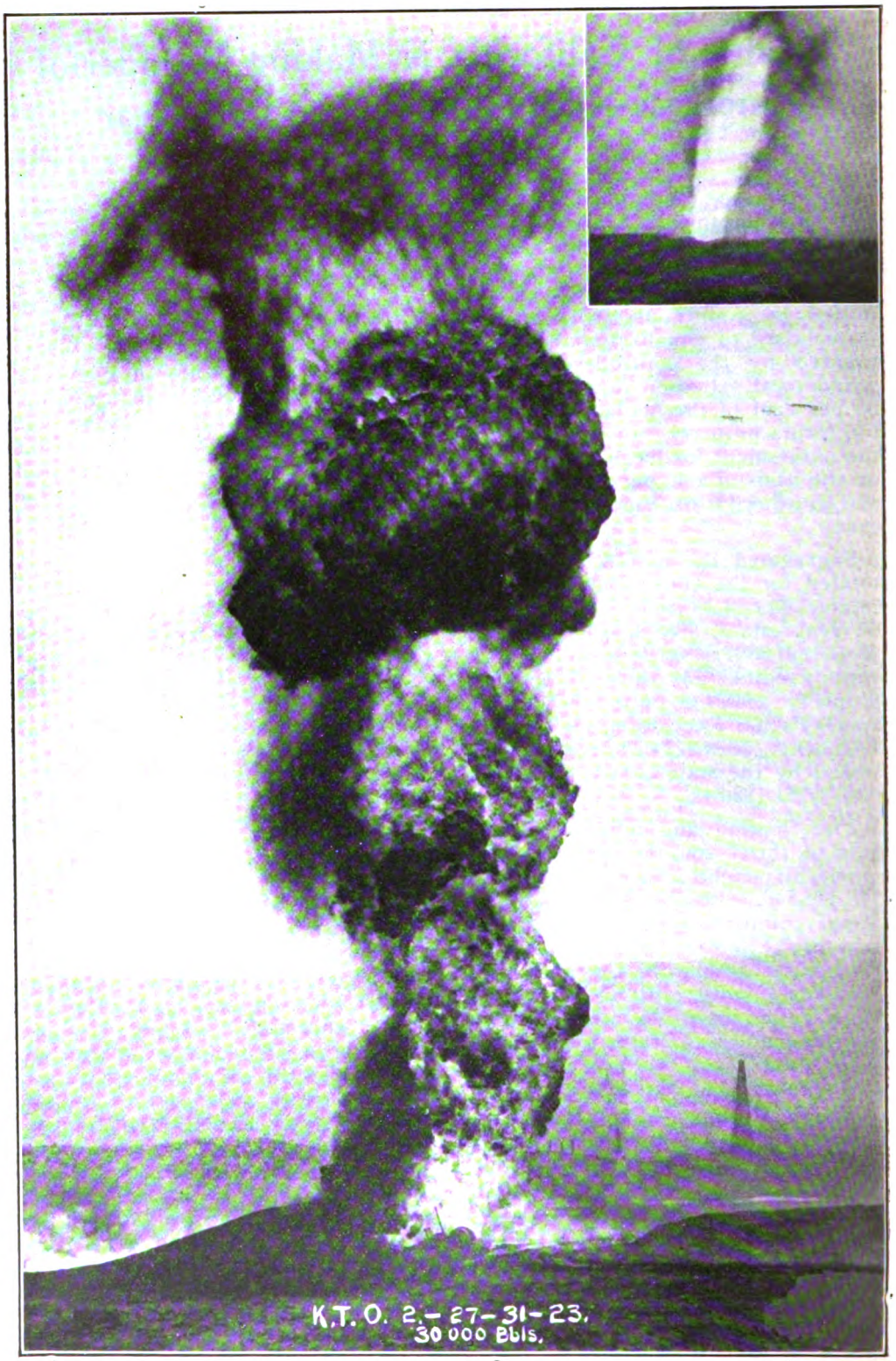

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Blazing 20,000 Barrel Midway Oil Gusher Is Extinguished With Mud

There have been burning wells in the Midway oilfield which attracted more attention, because at the time the spectacle of a burning oil well was a novelty and the field as yet had not become accustomed to such sights, but surpassing all other flaming gushers in volume of flow was the No. 21 well of the Kern Trading and Oil Company on section 27, 31-23, which has recently been extinguished after burning for sixteen days.

The resourcefulness of the clever men at the head of the big company's oil department decided upon the plan of fighting the flames with mud, after other agencies had failed, and mud succeeded in winning the battle. Heretofore steam has been depended upon as the most effective weapon against a burning well, the plan being to get a sufficient head to snuff out the flames. This practice proved ineffective against the last big flame, and it was decided to resort to chemicals. then decided to resort to chemicals. Accordingly an order for ten tons of the patent fire extinguisher was placed and arrangements were made to mix the liquid in big tanks for pumping into the blazing well. However, while waiting for the chemicals to arrive it was decided to try rotary mud, a mixture of clay and water used in plastering the sides of the hole when drilling with a rotary drilling outfit. Accordingly a huge batch of mud was mixed and a sufficient supply of water was obtained from the big mains passing through the property to gravitate the mixture into the hole. The fire soon began to subside and in a short time had gone out entirely.

The well was brought in at a depth of 2930 feet as a 20,000 barrel oil gusher. There was a great escape of gas from the hole and to this fact is due the fire, which broke out little more than an hour after the oil began flowing. A cigarette is said to have been the primary cause of the blaze. Although smoking was prohibited in proximity to the well, the trouble was started a quarter of a mile or more distant, in a low canyon where a quantity of gas had settled. A workman had gone to this spot, thinking it safe from danger, to enjoy a smoke. He struck a match and in the face of a stiff breeze that was blowing, the gas suddenly burst into flame and with a roar started up the canyon toward the flowing well. The workmen on the derrick saw the flame coming and were able to escape without injury, but in a short time the well was a mass of flame and the derrick entirely consumed. Great clouds of smoke and flame were sent heavenward and at night the blazing well resembled a huge gas jet lighting up the country for miles and miles around and attracting hundreds of visitors to view the remarkable sight.

A great amount of effort and many teams and men were required to control the blazing oil. Huge dykes were built to keep it away from adjoining properties and the utmost of vigilance was necessary to prevent the spread of the fire.

After a few days the scene of the fire much resembled the crater of a volcano. A huge hole was worn in the ground and the burned mud and sand formed a circular border around the blazing center.

Moving picture men were on the scene and numerous films were taken of the spectacle. After the fire had been extinguished the well continues to burn oil.

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Remarkable Photograph Taken at Night in Glare of Burning Oil Well Five Miles Distant

A most remarkable feat of photography is to be seen on the opposite page. The two views are almost identical except that there is a difference of twelve hours in the time the exposures were made, the upper being taken during the bright sunlight of the morning and the lower during the dark of night.

Without an explanation the lower picture at first glance would appear to be a failure, but instead it is truly an unusual exposure. The camera is pointed at the blazing oil well on the section 27, 31-23, property of the Kern Trading and Oil Company, five miles distant from the sub-station grounds of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation in the Midway oilfield. The upper picture shows the smoke from the blazing well in the day time, and the lower picture the bright glare of the huge fire at night.

J. B. Carter, district agent for the company at Taft, made the exposures. The upper picture is an instantaneous snapshot, while the lower picture is a time exposure in the making of which the shutter of the camera was allowed to remain open for forty-five minutes. A close examination of the picture shows the great amount of detail in the negative. In the first place the bright glare in the middle of the photograph is the light from the burning well which made the country for many miles around almost as bright as day. The circular ball of light just above the left hand corner of the building in the rear of the transformer on the right, is an arc light in the camp of the Union Oil Company, which, in the upper picture, is seen just to the left of the transformer on the right. In the foreground of the lower picture are the poles and wires of the transmission lines as plain as if they were seen by daylight. Against the first transformer on the left a ladder is leaning and its shadow is clearly caught against the white background of the transformer. The insulators on the poles are to be seen in minute detail and the derricks and buildings on properties more than a mile away can be seen more clearly in the lower picture than in the upper. The long streak of white running half way through the picture at the right was made by the lights of automobiles traveling the main road through the oilfield. During the three-quarters of an hour consumed in making the exposure, many scores of machines passed along this road which goes into Taft from the upper end of the field. The steady procession of these lights is recorded in a ribbon-like line by the camera. The slight jog in the line almost at the extreme right hand end, is a point where the road crosses the railroad tracks. Between the road and the frame building in the foreground is an oil lease building showing the lights from the interior shining through the windows. The countless numbers of little specks of white dotted here and there are lights in derricks and in the buildings, and the glare of natural gas torches on properties throughout the field.

All in all the picture is a remarkable one. Mr. Carter believes that his camera was placed most advantageously for the exposure. Behind him and to his right was Twenty-five Hill, which reflected back the light from the burning well, thus tending to make the negative more clear.

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What the New 10,000 Volt Line Will Mean to the Thriving Town of Clovis

An additional 10,00 volt line was recently completed into Clovis and the Tribune, the weekly paper of that thriving community, made the following comment:

The San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation have recognized for some time that the service at Clovis was not what it should be and a short time ago it was decided to bring in a separate line for the use of Clovis and the immediate vicinity. The erection of a new line from the Copper Mine to Clovis is an expensive matter as it involves quite a heavy outlay of wire, insulators, poles and labor. When completed the town will have the assurance that it will take an accident on the main line between Crane Valley and the substation, or on the line from the mines to Clovis, to put our city on the blink and make us become involuntary contributors to John Rockefeller's oil fund.

The company have a large force at work and expect to have the "juice" coming in over the new wires by Saturday night.

Bill Otts, the local manager, says his worries are over when the new line gets in and he says the old "trouble indicator" will hang quiet on the hook when the bright new wires are run into Clovis connecting up with the power house.

Bill has been having troubles of his own since the juice got to flickering and petering out locally, especially in the evenings when the moving picture man, the editor and the woman who insisted on ironing a shirt for hubby with the electric iron commenced to get busy. The moving picture man usually got the reel of pictures to the crucial point where "Alkali Ike" had a n irresistible-never-to-be-forgotten kiss carefully poised, ready to deposit on the ruby lips of the heroine of a thousand plays and just when the tender hearted, susceptible swains who sat hand-in-hand in the friendly gloom of the Aerdome audience awaiting the fateful moment when the kiss aforesaid would break the opalescent glaze that hid the lips of the coy Marie—just then, flick-flicker, went the juice and amid the whiz-wh-i-r-r of the dying kicks of the reel machine would be heard the light blue remarks of the moving picture man mingled with frenzied calls for "Bill!" But Bill, who had a prescient feeling of the coming gloom, had fled, and was carefully hid in the cheerful parlors of the local undertaker where none but the hardiest souls would venture in the darkness. There he would stay until the fitful flare would announce another installment of Wishon's best. Then Bill would mingle with the maddening crowd and casually reply to questioners as to the why and wherefore of recurrent gloom. His explanations varied, once it would be that Lon Peart, Sam Dietrich, Ed. Walthall or Speedy Swift had just wired him that the Digger Indian who had tried to use the power wires as a clothes line below the station had been sandpapered from off the wires and that things were expected to move freely now. Innumerable trees fell across the lines at divers and sundry times; even meteors had exploded and confused the current from its rightful path. The number and guilelessness of Bill's excuses for blanks in the service were as varied and satisfying as those of the office boy when he is determined to get an afternoon off.

In the newspaper sanctum across the way from the theatre where the editor sat deliberating over writing an editorial on "Frenzied Finance," or of accepting Cy Dewdrop's offer of a load of pumpkins for back subscriptions, and where the faithful compositor stood with a batch of belated copy for ads or church sociables in his hand, the break in the streak of light

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came as an oasis in the desert of work piled up and they sank to rest and to slumber in which might have been detected the words "God Bless Bill, for this little rest."

But it was to the irate owner of an electric iron that Bill was compelled to answer in person, for dodge as he might and did, the theatre owner or the tired editor, he could not escape the zealous owner of the "Hot Point" or "Sizler" flatiron. She had lost the juice and the light, at one and the same moment, and in her agitation had run the iron over two fingers and burned a hole in the front or rear of hubby's best shirt, it mattered little which side, and she had to take it up personally with "Bill." Bill was always equal to the occasion and the heart rending tales he told would soon reduce his fair listener to tears, she forgave the company, and she freely forgave Bill. As Bill says such things will wear the adamant from off the surface of a granite monument, and so he joins in a welcome to the new lines that will bring light and power to all in one continuous streak.

Mountain District of Madera County Presents Most Favorable Conditions for Apple Growing

Madera, as an apple county, gives excellent prospects and it is the opinion of horticultural experts who have just made a trip through the mountain territory, that if the trees are given the proper attention no finer fruit can be raised any place in the state.

Deputy State Commissioner George P. Weldon, in company with George Marchbank, the County Horticultural Commissioner of Madera County, spent several days in the mountainous section adjacent to the towns of Raymond, Oakhurst, Coarse Gold, Nipinnawassee and Miami. While orcharding is not generally followed as a profession throughout this locality the experts were impressed with the great possibilities for future development. At present, transportation facilities are such as to discourage anyone from going in extensively for growing fruit. The building of a railroad into this section would undoubtedly add a tremendous impetus to the industry. Until such a road is built there is no way for the fruit to reach the market, except that it is hauled by team or auto truck a distance of 30 miles or more. The auto truck has already made its way into many not easily accessible parts of the mountains and may eventually solve the transportation problem to a great extent.

The apple is the principal fruit grown in the mountains. A considerable acreage has been planted to this fruit in the past. At present many orchards are receiving very little attention because of the distance from market and the competition that must be met from growers who have the advantage of a railroad. Even with very little or no care in the way of cultivation, pruning and spraying, a great many of the trees look well and are loaded down with clean, well-sized apples.

The following varieties were found to be doing well in one or more of the orchards visited: Yellow Newtown Pippin, Yellow Belleflower, White Winter Pearmain, Delicious, Winesap, Staymen Winesap, Ortley, Rhode Island Greening, Arkansas Black, Mammoth Black Twig, Nero, Spitzenberg, Black Ben Davis, Ben Davis, Maiden Blush, as well as many others of lesser importance.

Particular mention should be made of the Delicious variety, some excellent specimens of which were seen in Frank Femmons' orchard. Mr. Femmons, the pioneer apple man of the section, has always had faith in the future of the fruit industry.

The Staymen Winesap is also doing remarkably well and a number of trees of the Nero variety are loaded to the ground.

The White Winter Pearmain seems to have been quite a general favorite for planting in this locality.

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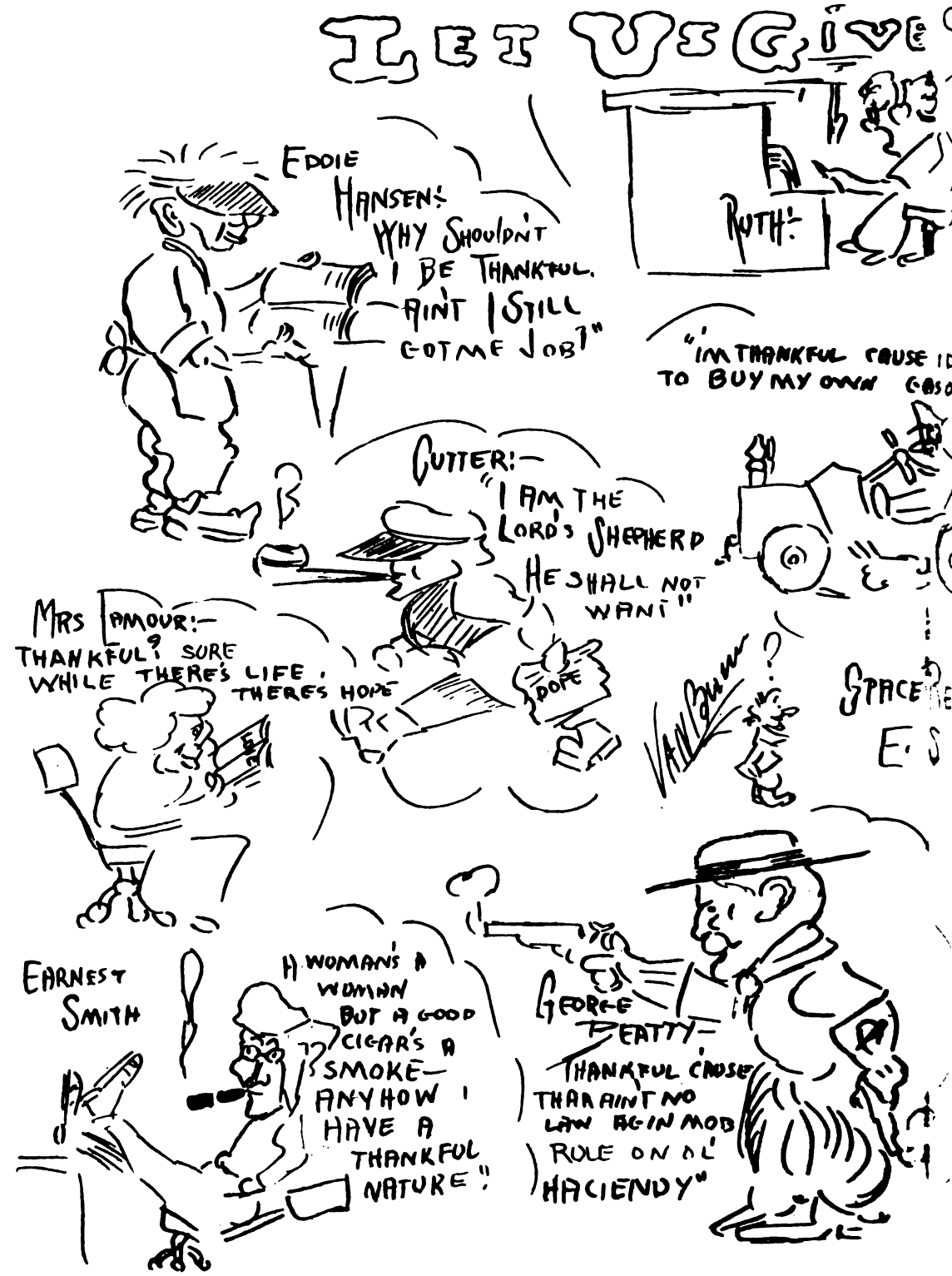
Why Some of Us Are Observing T


LET US GIVE
EDDIE HANSEN:- WHY SHOULDN'T I BE THANKFUL. AIN'T I STILL GOT ME JOB!"
RUTH:-
"I'M THANKFUL 'CAUSE I
TO BUY MY OWN
CUTTER:- "I AM THE LORD'S SHEPHERD HE SHALL NOT WANT"
DOPE
MRS AMOUR:- THANKFUL? SURE WHILE THERE'S LIFE, THERE'S HOPE
SPACE
EARNEST SMITH
A WOMAN'S A WOMAN BUT A GOOD CIGAR'S A SMOKE— ANYHOW I HAVE A THANKFUL NATURE!
GEORGE BEATTY:- THANKFUL 'CAUSE THAR AIN'T NO LAW AGIN MOB RULE ON A' HACIENDY"

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Thanksgiving Day—By "Little Van"

THANKS
HELL-O
SURE I'M THANKFUL-TWO CAN LIVE AS CHEAPLY AS ONE
HAWTHORNE!
I MIGHT AS WELL BE THANKFUL BUT THIS MARRIED LIFE IS NO JOKE
I DON'T HAVE SOLINE
MORE MONEY FOR GOTE'S MILK"
STRAL
OFFICE CAT
I'M ALWAYS HAPPY WHEN THERE'S A HOLIDAY
MISS FOSTER OUGHTA BE THANKFUL—I DIDN'T HAVE ROOM FOR HER MAP
RESERVED FOR ERWIN
I'M THANKFUL ENOUGH—THERE'S JUST AS GOOD FISH IN THE SEA AS EVER WERE CAUGHT-GET THE DRIFT?
HARRY KERN
I'M ALWAYS FULL OF THANKS—OR SOMETHING
I STILL HAVE MUCH GOOD LOOKS"
MISS KING

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San Joaquin Light & Power Magazine

Published in the Interest of the Consumers and Employees of the San Joaquin Light & Power Corporation.

I. W. ALEXANDER, Editor and Manager

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What Dairying Means to a Community

A striking illustration of the stability of business in a locality depending upon the dairy industry has been given in Tulare County during the past season, asserts the Tulare Register. Although as a rule the country over, banks have not been making extensive loans for the purpose of tiding over the "dull season," the monthly returns from Tulare's dairy farms have been sufficient to keep business moving right along. While the last bank statements showed a slight decrease in deposits from those last preceding, there was still an excellent showing, and The Register is informed that since that time the deposits again have made an increase.

This condition demonstrates the advantage of a rural industry which brings in revenue every month in the year. It is only the dairy that does this. Tulare County's products are varied and all offer a profitable field of endeavor, but the once-a-year crop no matter how good, nor how profitable the market, cannot equal the uninterrupted monthly returns from the dairy business in the building up of a community and in contributing to the comfort and contentment of the people.

Other communities in the county, which have been dependent nearly altogether on one or two crops a year, are reaching out for the benefits of the great industry which has brought prosperity to the Tulare neighborhood, and dairying is being extended to new territory, and is being expanded where it has already gained a foothold. The Register prophesies that the time is coming when Tulare County will lead all other portions of the state in the dairy industry.

Advantages of the Great San Joaquin Valley

(Orosi Progress)

Realty men in the valley are of the opinion that this will be a brisk year in their business. Sales are already picking up, and inquiries about land are coming in rapidly. California is the objective point of a large number of the people in the eastern states and as soon as they begin to make special inquiry, they find out that for soil, climate, water facilities and genuine bona fide opportunities, the great San Joaquin Valley has all the rest of the state beaten to a frazzle. Take the matter of water alone. Aside from the splendid irrigation systems which make a network of canals over a large part of the valley, there are possibilities of private ownership of water which can be equalled in no other part of the state. Almost every ranch owner here can have his own wells and can be entirely independent of dry seasons. It is not necessary to bore to any great depth to reach an almost inexhaustible supply of water. Electricity for pumping is probably cheaper here than anywhere else in the state; and as the wells are comparatively shallow, the expense of the lift is proportionately light. It would naturally be supposed that with such water facilities, our acreage prices would be high. But on the contrary they are much less, for the same land values, than in the southern part of the state. Prices are rising here, but they are still well within reason, and it is no wonder that newcomers are pouring into our valley.

The Tulare Lake grain harvest this year is now conservatively estimated at 500,000 sacks.

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Figures That Are Food For Much Thought

Stanislaus County claims that the daily payroll from its dairies is $9000, and according to County Statistician Hanscom the ranchers of that county received $3,012,836 for the butter fat for the year October 1, 1912, to October 1, 1913. This means an average daily distribution of $8,225, and the dairymen of the county hope to double the production within the next few years. Kings, on of the smaller counties, is in line with a claim of $5000 daily distribution from its creameries. The dairies of Merced County are not so extensive, but they distribute from $30,000 to $40,000 a month, or more than $1000 daily. This showing of prosperity should have a stimulating effect upon the ranchers in many sections of the San Joaquin Valley, who have not taken advantage of the dairying possibilities as enthusiastically as those in other localities.

Pamphlet with Information of Much Value

Under date of September, 1913, the General Electric Company is distributing its latest issue of "Electricity on the Farm." The pamphlet is larger in size than previously and contains a greater amount of information regarding the use of motor power. The section devoted to irrigation and pumps is particularly valuable. Extensive tables showing costs, water measurements and other features of irrigation are presented and should be of great service to persons interested in this work.

Electrically Speaking—What Are You?

In the language of the electrical engineer, are you a Power House, a Relay Station, or an Insulator?

Every man is one or other of these three; he generates his own ideas, he receives and passes on the ideas of others, or he is unaffected either by ideas of his own or by the ideas of others.

Of the three, of course, the Power House is the most important. There we find initiative, direction, force, imagination, creation. And because of the possession of the primal characteristics we usually encounter the human Power House acknowledging the generic title of "The Boss."

The most useful help the Boss has is the Relay Station—the man who takes the impulse from the Power House and further distributes it and applies it without materially diminishing either its quality or its force. If the Relay Station should happen to be equipped so that at a moment's notice it could serve adequately as a Power House—if the assistant can generate ideas as well as receive and transmit them—then is the Boss to be envied above all other executive mortals.

In the nature of things there are comparatively few Power Houses; but there are many Relay Stations—and, sad to reflect, the name of the Insulators is Legion. One man in a thousand may be Boss, but the other 999 may be Relay Stations. Are they as a general proposition? Let the reader answer for himself.

Along the circuits joined by human live wires there is no surer way to attain to Power House proportions than to be a well-equipped Relay Station. If you are merely an Insulator and don't know how or care to know how to get into the Relay class your case is hopeless. Insulators are necessary, and you will be kept just where you are.

Be a live Relay Station. Take the ideas as they flash from the Power House, grasp them, digest them, preserve their quality and force and send them undiminished along the wires that radiate from you. Keep in close and constant touch with the Power House. When it needs help or a change of equipment rest assured the call will go to the most dependable, most efficient Relay Station.—(From the Valve World.)

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An Ode to the Lost Pipe

BY "DUTCH"

The construction of the Tule River Power Plant by the J. G. White Engineering Corporation includes the installation of a pressure pipe line with a maximum head of 1500 feet. This line consists of 132 pieces of lap welded pipe, especially made in Germany. This pipe was shipped by steamer to New Orleans, where it was trans-shipped on September 1st for Springville. One of the cars broke down en route and was reloaded, and in reloading one length of pipe was omitted and left at Houston, Texas, apparently lost to the world. The pipe was finally found and is now at Springville, but in the meantime more than a month's delay had been caused in the work. During the lull in activity, "Dutch," one of the "boys" on the job, who is more or less poetically inclined, transferred his thoughts to paper and they are here presented as copied from the original manuscript.—Editor.

What's the matter friend? Why look so blue?
What's the troubl? Is it then true?
That a whole length of pipe disapere
between New York and Springville someplace somewhere
to be lost without a trace to be found
a pipe weighing 60,000 pound.
Its an outrage to tell sutsh yarn to me
impossible it cannot be.

You say it cannot be but still it is
Because if not you think we act like thies
by putting in our time in stalling round
Like Jack the Tar when he is homerbound
That's where you'r wrong excuse my speaken
Because its ancient history ask the deacon
That pipe should be here in September
But never com; but I remember
Somebody say a week or so ago
Did you ask me who? Well I don't know—
That they located this here pipe in Houston, Texas
Und she be here on the eighteent by exstras;
She didn't com and hell knows if she ever will

That's what's the matter. That's why the work is still
No airgun going and no hammers tapping
No cursing swearing and no signal rappen
Und ouer prayer every night does go like this;
O Lord; O send us what we miss and heal the couse of ouer
trouble ouer sore und send that pipe that famous No. 4.

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Without

A horse without a harness,
A wagon without a wheel,
A shirt without a button,
A kitchen without a meal,
A church without a pulpit,
A bell without a ring,
A stove without a stovepipe,
A kite without a string,
A bank without a dollar,
An organ without keys,
A door without a doornob,
A canine without fleas,
A ship without a rudder,
A boat without an oar,
A school without a teacher,
A lion without a roar,
A train without an engine,
A boiler without steam,
A barnyard without poultry,
A dairy without cream,
All such things are hardly
Worth anybody's while—
But worst of all is surely
A face without a smile.

—Exchange.

Is Not Arithmetic

Little Willie's father found his youthful son holding up one of his rabbits by the ears, and saying to him: "How much is seven and seven, now?"

"Bah!" the father heard the boy say, "I knew you couldn't. Here's another one: Six and six is how much?"

"Why, Willie, what in the world are you doing with your rabbit?" asked the father.

"Willie threw the rabbit down with disgust. "I knew our teacher was lying to us," was all he said.

"Why, how?" asked the father.

"Why, she told us this morning that rabbits were the greatest multipliers in the world, and this dummy can't even add."

A Popular Air

Mike O'Toole was fresh from Cork—a fighting, scrapping, wildeyed, terror of fourteen. In school, one day, he sat on a tack, and the Wild Irish Rose.

Doing a Man's Part

"What are you doing for our cause?" asked a suffragette worker.

"Doing?" replied the man, "I'm supporting one of your most enthusiastic members."

Nothing to Prevent

She—Let me drink in the beauty of the starry night.

He—All right; there's both the great and little dippers.—Baltimore American.

"Absence makes the heart grow fonder."
Well, if that be true,
What, the absent lover'll wonder,
Will his presents do?

—New York Sun.

Playing a Mean Trick

One evening when a water inspector was going his round, he stopped at one of the mains in a busy street to turn off the water owing to some repairs. He had just put the handle on the tap and began turning when a hand was placed on his shoulder by a tipsy gentleman, who said, in a drunken tone:

"So I have found you at last, have I? It's you that's turning the street round, is it?"

Ever Occur to You?

"Is he making good?"

"He must be. He never seems to have time to stop and tell anybody about it."—Detroit Free Press.

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Remember?

Oh, don't you remember the ball games, Ben Bolt,
The ball games we played years ago?
We played on a humpy old two by four lot
And walloped the ball to and fro.

And don't you remember the runs, Ben Bolt,
The runs that were made by the score?
The count at the end of the glorious fray
Was one hundred to seventy-four.

And don't you remember the chill, Ben Bolt,
The chill that went through every vein
When a home run went over the neighbor's fence
And bing went a big window pane?
—Milwaukee Sentinel.

A Code for Pedestrians

An indigent citizen, who had just dodged three automobiles in quick succession, was heard freeing his mind at the four corners.

"Why," said he, "pretty soon the chauffeurs will be getting up a horn core for pedestrians to commit to memory, something like this:

"One toot—Throw a quick back handspring for the sidewalk.

"Two toots—Dive over the car.

"Three toots—Lie down calmly; it is too late to escape, but we will go over you as easily as possible if you keep still.

"One long and two short toots—Throw yourself forward and we will save both your arms.

"One short and two long toots—Throw yourself backward and one leg will be saved.

"Four toots—It's all up with you, but we promise to notify your family."

Out of Season

In summer days we change our ways;
Of that you may be sure.
The office flock that watched the clock
Now watch the temperature.
—Pittsburgh Post.

His Cruel Father

Tommy came out of a room in which his father was tacking down a carpet. He was crying lustily.

"Why, Tommy, what's the matter?" asked his mother.

"P-p-p-papa hit his finger with the hammer," sobbed Tommy.

"Well, you needn't cry at a thing like that," comforted his mother. "Why didn't you laugh?"

"I did," sobbed Tommy, "and that's what's the matter with me."

Lady (at piano)—They say you love good music.

Youth—Oh, that doesn't matter. Pray go on.—Le Rire.

"Does it cost much to feed the giraffes?"

"No; you see, a little goes a long way with them."—Brooklyn Life.

"Doctor, how can I prevent my husband from talking in his sleep?"

"Well, you might try giving him a few opportunities in the day time."—Pittsburgh Post.

First Stude—How near were you to the right answer in the fifth question?

Second Stude—Two seats away.—Cornell Widow.

She struck his fancy. They were wed.
The honeymoon was dandy.
And now she strikes him on the head
Or anywhere that's handy.
—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Knew it Well

A man who had been troubled with bronchitis for a long time called on a rather noted doctor. After a few questions the doctor told him he had a very common ailment that would readily yield to treatment.

"You're so sure you can cure my bronchitis," said the man, "you must have had great experience with it."

"Why, my dear sir," confided the doctor, "I've had it myself for over twenty years!"—San Francisco Argonaut.

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Fresno

The matrimonial record of the office in Fresno was maintained during the month of November. The young ladies have been captivating hearts and ringing wedding bells at a merry clip of late and it remained for Miss Ruth Van Buren to contribute the November number to the program. Everybody in the office knew for some time past that Ruth was harboring some great secret but she kept her plans to herself so admirably that not until the columns of the daily papers announced the event was it known to her wide circle of friends that her marriage had taken place. The office force, who pass the telephone board at the noon hour and after work in the afternoon, had for some time past noticed signs that bespoke of coming nuptials, but all kind of questioning and joshing failed to receive any encouragement from Ruth. Those who believe that girls cannot keep secrets were severely disappointed in this instance. Ruth certainly kept her secret well, and her plans for the event were equally well laid.

Mr. Louis Heintz is the fortunate young man who won the favor of the fair young lady. The ceremony was performed the evening at Saturday, November 1st, at the manse of the Belmont Presbyterian Church, Rev. Duncan Wallace officiating. The ceremony was marked with the strictest of simplicity and only immediate relatives and a few close friends were present. Miss Bess Havner attended the bride, while the groom was supported by Mr. Rex Wisner in the capacity of best man. The bride was attired in a traveling suit of dark blue serge and a small traveling hat of very becoming design.

The news of Ruth's marriage was received with much pleasure and her multitude of friends anxiously awaited the time when they could extend their well wishes. The girls in the office presented her with a beautiful set of knives and forks, and Thursday evening, November 13th, Miss Bess Havner was the hostess at a shower given in honor of the bride. Many thoughtful and valuable presents were received

Mrs. Louis Heintz, who was the former Miss Ruth Van Buren

by Mrs. Heintz at this time. Miss Havner invited the following to be present: Mrs. H. J. Bartram, Mrs. E. C. Van Buren, Mrs. A. B. Carpenter, and the Misses Mayme Harrison, Mortimer Lamkin, Nira Hickman, Mayme Foster, Jo Purcell, Pearl Ellithorpe, Pearl Babcock and Margaret Harrah. A very enjoyable evening was spent.

Mr. and Mrs. Heintz are at present living in Fresno but before long they

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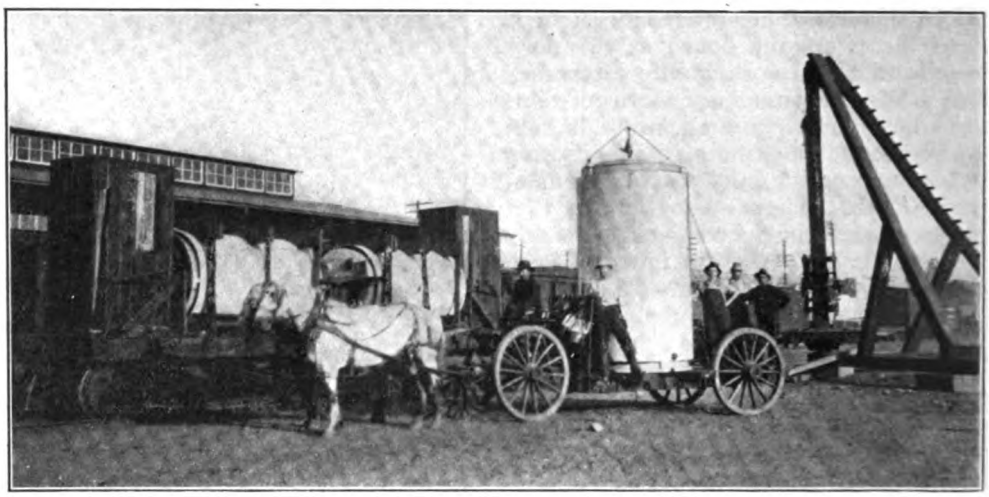
expect to leave this city. Mr. Heintz is an employee of the Stone and Webster Co. and when the local office of the corporation is closed he will probably be transferred to another place on the coast where work is in progress or else to the home office in Boston. Mr. Heintz is a native of Boston and his relatives are living in that city. He intends to take his bride there in the near future, if his duties do not call him east sooner.

Fletcher A. Easton, district agent at Selma, was in the Fresno office for a short time last week.

General Agent E. D. Farrow, Jr., while on a visit to his home in Visalia a week ago was suddenly attacked with appendicitis. After a few days of rest he again resumed his duties without having to submit to an operation.

Miss FitzGerald spent a day or two with Mrs. Roy Lear, nee Geneva Barrett, at her home in Selma recently. Miss FitzGerald reports that Mrs. Lear is proving herself to be a very capable little lady around the house and that she does not burn more than two or three meals a day. In fact Miss FitzGerald enjoyed her visit with the former Miss Barrett so thoroughly that she remained over until the following Monday morning. When she put in her belated appearance at the office after the hour of ten had struck, some of the more suspicious of the force immediately accused Miss FitzGerald of having stolen a march on them. No wedding bells for her, Miss FitzGerald says. No, not for a while.

O. A. Walthall, district agent at McFarland, met with a severe accident



Unloading 500 k. v. a. Allis Chalmers Transformers—Recently a shipment of four of these huge transformers was received in Fresno. They were loaded two to a flat car. Each transformer complete weighs 9 tons. They are 12 feet high and 6 feet in diameter. The picture tells the story of their size. The "boys," reading from left to right, are Bill Coppin, "Lucky" Baldwin, Herb Spears, B. L. Simpson, Wm. Jewell

Assistant General Manager A. Emory Wishon and Gas Engineer W. E. Barrett made a trip of inspection over all of the gas properties on the system during the month.

Chief Inspector Buswell made a trip to Bakersfield and other points in the southern end of the valley during the month.

Auditor Staal spent a week in Bakersfield during the month going into matters in the southern ogice.

in Bakersfield recently. He was endeavoring to crank an automobile and in some unexplained manner the crank slipped and, striking him on the temple, cut a long and deep gash, which required seven stitches to close up. An artery was severed and considerable blood was lost. He was compelled to wear a bandage for several weeks but now the injury has healed and Jum is again able to mingle in social circles in Bakersfield.

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P. H. Johnson took his vacation this month, going to Los Angeles, his former home, to renew old acquaintances and to attend to personal business matters.

Mrs. P. H. Johnson has been transferred to the post of assistant cashier.

Mrs. A. B. Carpenter returned to her regular duties the first of the month after an absence from the office dating back to the summer.

Miss Hume has been transferred to the office of Chief Inspector Buswell and her place in the collections department is being filled by Miss Howard.

H. B. Foy has entered the employ of the company to fill the vacancy in the distribution department caused by the resignation of J. Kessler Jones, who is now engaged in the real estate business in Fresno.

Fred Munston, who has been the operator in charge of the Caruthers substation for some time past, has been transferred to the San Joaquin Power House in the capacity of oiler.

J. A. Mandell, who has been the operator at the new Famosa sub-station since it has been in operation, has been succeeded by M. McDougall.

E. J. Crawford, superintendent of operation, made a trip of inspection to Bakersfield last week, visiting the operating stations in the southern end of the valley.

In the Fresno Basketball League, which begins plays December 2nd, the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation will be represented by a strong team, and the boys may be expected to give a good account of themselves. The personnel of the team is as follows: John Summers, captain; Jose Summers, C. Hightower, J. Welch, P. S. Briggs, B. Martin, C. Stockholm.

C. F. Baldt, formerly chief clerk for the company in the Selma office, was accidentally crushed between two freight cars in the yards of the Southern Pacific Company in San Francisco earlier in the month and succumbed to his injuries a few hours later. He was in the employ of the railroad company and met with the fatal accident while checking out cars. Mr. Baldt resigned his position with the company in Selma last spring in order to accept an opening with the railroad company in the north. The news of his untimely death is a shock to his many friends in Selma and to those who came to know him through his service with the company.

Jack Carter, district agent at Taft, and Mrs. Carter spent several days in Fresno early in the month. Jack came up to have his car completely overhauled and to attend to matters pertaining to business in his office. To

Live Wire Puzzle No. 2

The editors of the Live Wire above present the second of their series of office puzzles. It is a bona fide photograph of one of the most popular members of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation family and to the successful guesser they will gladly present free of charge a year's subscription to the Magazine. Now, who is it? Of course you would not know her for the same little girl today, for the styles have changed since then and she no longer wears her hair in curls, dangling loosely around her neck. Send your answers to Puzzle Editor, Live Wire.

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make sure that the boys at the garage would bend every effort to get his car out in record breaking time, Jack purchased a box of cigars and passed them around. The boys, however, were not used to bribes of this kind and, when they saw the cigars coming, in their innocence they mistook the Taft agent's real purpose and naturally accepted the version that is usually the case when the time honored custom of passing a box of cigars is resorted to. "Is it a boy or a girl, Jack?" "Who are you going to name it after?" "Does it look like its daddy?" were only a few of the questions asked. When Jack saw the trouble his generosity had wrought, he crawled out of the mess the best way he could. Billy Stranahan got onto the joke, and although Jack made every effort to keep Billy away from Mrs. Carter, Bill succeeded in breaking the news. It's a safe bet Jack won't pass around the cigars again.

Traveling Auditor Erwin came in from the road several times during the month, having closed his work in several of the offices receiving his attention.

District Agent C. M. McCardle made several trips from Dinuba during the month. Charlie has been giving his Ford car a little work during the past month and he says that it has always landed him home at night.

District Agent Raleigh Casad was down from Merced during the month for a short conference with Assistant Manager E. B. Walthall.

General Agent E. D. Farrow, Jr., was in the Fresno office for a couple of weeks during the month, after having completed a visit to the districts in the southern end of the valley.

General Superintendent L. N. Peart made a trip to San Francisco and Palo Alto to witness the annual football game between Stanford University and the University of California. His brother, Sterling Peart, captained the team wearing the colors of the state university, and although he made a desperate effort to bring the victory to his side, the boys from the Palo Alto institution piled by the bigger score.

E. Cameron, of the Electric Agencies Company of San Francisco, made a short business trip to Fresno early in the month.

Wm. G. Kerckhoff, president, and A. C. Balch, vice-president, of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, while on a tour of inspection of the company's properties in the valley earlier in the month, paid the Fresno office a visit.

Zeke Johnston, the beau brummel of the garage, has decided that it does not pay to attempt to deceive one's comrades. Zeke received a mysterious telephone message recently from one of the big hotels. That in itself would have caused no comment, but the hurry-on Zeke got in his anxiety to respond to the request delivered from the other end of the line, opened the bag. This gave away the secret and although the boys are persistent in their claims to have something on the genial foreman, Zeke asserts that the whole incident is a case of mistaken identity. Owing to his excellent reputation for honesty and truthfulness, his explanation must be accepted, but many of the boys feel that the mystery has not been properly solved.

Sterling Peart, brother of General Superintendent L. N. Peart, came down from Berkely shortly after the middle of the month to assume charge of the dairy on A. Emory Wishon's Pleasant Valley Farm. Mr. Peart was one of the students in the agricultural department of the state university. During the summer he made a tour of the dairying communities at this end of the valley to personally inspect the stock and the methods employed on the different farms. Having been elected to the captaincy of this year's football team, he returned to college to remain until after the annual intercollegiate game had been played and then left to enter upon his chosen work. Mr. Peart will make his headquarters at the Pleasant Valley Farm.

George Beatty is now making his headquarters in Fresno and is in charge of the teams throughout the system.

O. S. Ambrose, one of the staff of load dispatchers, attended the annual

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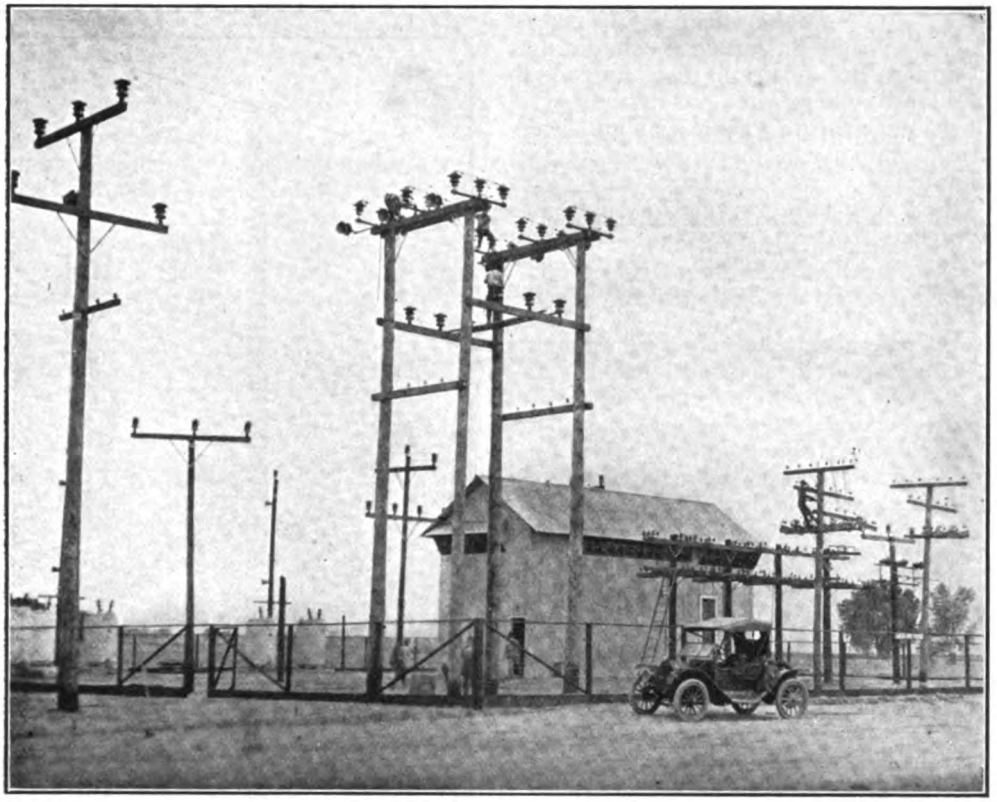

Cutting in the Famosa Sub-station on the "East Sixty" transmission line. Mark Webster and his crew and the crew from the Bakersfield district doing the work under the direction of Superintendent of Construction J. E. Burgess.

California-Stanford football game and was overjoyed with the victory of the Cardinals, being an alumnus of the institution represented by the victorious team.

C. C. Dickson has been transferred from Selma to the Madera district office.

G. R. Stebbins, of the construction department, is now located at Porterville, in which district he is occupied with the work on the Tule River line.

Bob Leslie, one of the foremen on the Tule River job, was in Fresno the early part of the month on business and to enjoy a short respite from work.

W. E. Whittington, district agent at Los Banos, paid the Fresno office a visit during the month. Mr. Whittington and his force are preparing to move into their new office in the Wilson block, which has been rebuilt after the serious fire of several months ago.

Since being settled in their new home on Yosemite avenue, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Stranahan have entertained a number of their out-of-town friends. The latch key on Stranny's house is always on the outside.

A. B. Simpson, collector for the Bakersfield district, was in Fresno during the month for a visit with relatives while away from the southern district on his vacation.

W. C. Sage of the lighting department of the General Electric Company was in Fresno during the month to confer with the local business men in regard to the new system of electroilers which is planned for the business section of the city. He was accompanied from San Francisco by Jack Van Huysen.

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Bakersfield

J. R. Waddell, garage mechanic, has resigned his position and moved to Oakland where he has accepted a position with the Pacific Gas and Electric Company in their garage as mechanic.

R. J. Carlisle, garage foreman, has returned from a two weeks' vacation spent in San Francisco, where he reported having a most enjoyable time at the Portola.

Gordon Slater has entered upon his old duties again as stock clerk.

E. D. Farrow, Jr., general agent, paid several visits to Bakersfield, Wasco and McFarland on general business in the last two weeks.

Among recent installations in this district a 10 horsepower motor has been placed for the American Laundry.

The little settlement of Rosedale, six miles out from Bakersfield, is the latest community to adopt incandescent lighting, a church building, club, general store and two dwellings having been connected up to the lines this month.

The Bakersfield salesroom reports heater sales as follows: 144 gas heaters, 24 ranges, 19 water heaters. This is a record for twenty-four actual working days, and Commercial Manager Jastro and his force are well satisfied with the showing.

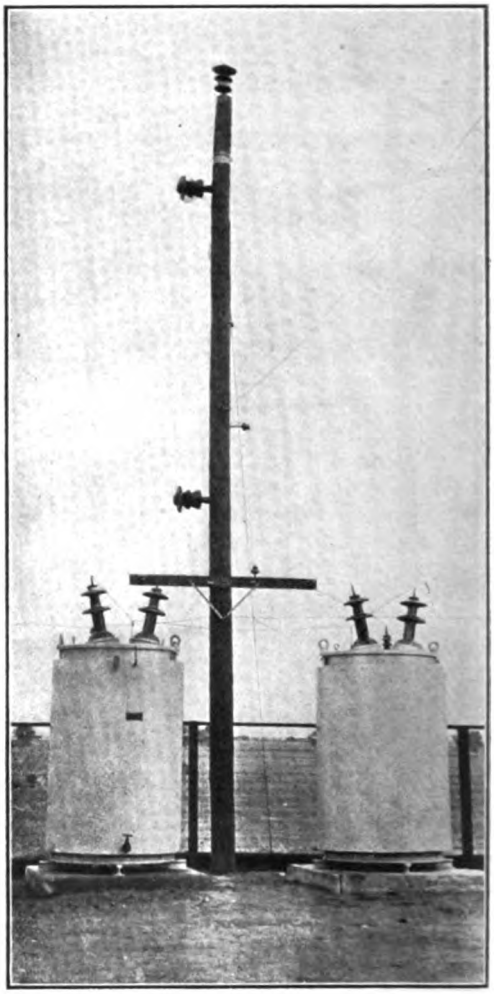
General Manager A. G. Wishon spent the 17th of October in Bakersfield.

Edison Day, October 21st, was observed by the Bakersfield salesroom by a window display gotten up by Salesmen Bishop and Upson and resulted in the selling of seven cases of lamps to one local merchant, alone.

O. M. Simpson, chief clerk, enjoyed a short visit to San Francisco to attend the Portola celebration.

The Associated Oil Company has installed a 35 horsepower motor in the Kern River oil fields.

Thea Altstaetter, telephone operator, spent a few days in San Francisco during the Portola as a maid of honor to her sister, who was elected queen of Kern County for the large festival.



200 k. v. a. transformers en bank at the Famosa Sub-station

Joe Worth of Wasco has installed a 3 horsepower motor for irrigation purposes. Another new installation is that of the Stone and Webster Corporation of a 17½ horsepower motor at Magunden, near Edison, power to be used on the construction of the P. L. & P. Co.'s sub-station.

Miss Dena Pesante, who is stenographer to the chief clerk, took in the San Francisco Portola.

A. E. Wishon, assistant general manager, W. E. Barrett, and E. D. Farrow, Jr., made a trip to the Kern River oil fields on the 25th of October.

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old hasbeens nursed sore muscles several days after as a result of their strenuous endeavors, everyone voted the picnic a huge success and were emphatic in their declarations that the good time enjoyed was the best since their service with the company.

The recent brush fires in the mountains near San Luis Obispo, which destroyed one of the long tunnels of the Southern Pacific Company and interrupted traffic over the coast division of that railway for some time, likewise did damage and caused inconvenience to the coast service of our company. At the foot of Questa Grade where the high tension line crosses the mountain about midway between Santa Margarita and San Luis Obispo, six of the big fifty foot poles were burned down. At the time the line was built in the spring a twenty foot clearance was provided for at this point and it was thought that this arrangement would be sufficient to meet all emergencies. The mountain fire, however, was so fierce that the big poles were made short work of. The country at this spot is rough and District Agent Howard and his men were kept busy making the necessary repairs. The work was rushed along in quick order, however, and the inconvenience was reduced to a minimum.

That it does not take a very considerable object to cause a great deal of trouble was again demonstrated earlier in the month when the Arroyo Grande district suddenly went into darkness. Every means known to the operators and the line crew was exhausted in their efforts to discover the cause of the trouble and the all night search was fruitless. Not until daylight was the difficulty located. Walter Dodge discovered a rat lying across the 2300 volt switch in back of the panel board. The burial ceremony that was read over the remains of this innocent looking rodent would not look well in print.

Bert Call, with headquarters at San Luis Obispo, has recently been placed

Members of the San Luis Obispo district force and their families enjoying their picnic in Reservoir Canyon. The happy party was photographed while enjoying a rest and listening to a musical program after their hearty barbecue.

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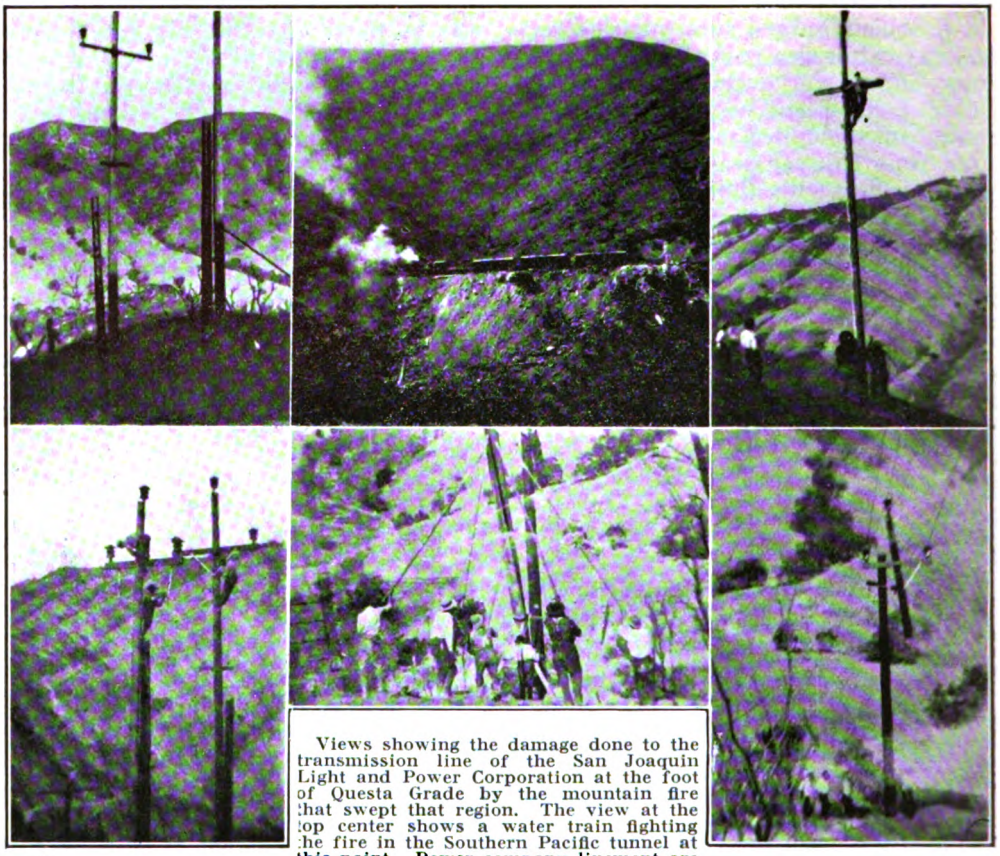

Views showing the damage done to the transmission line of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation at the foot of Questa Grade by the mountain fire that swept that region. The view at the top center shows a water train fighting the fire in the Southern Pacific tunnel at this point. Power company linement are seen at work replacing the burned poles.

in charge of the coast operation. He has been making a personal patrol of the lines in the district, to see that everything is in tip-top shape for the winter season.

Mark Webster, construction foreman, who was on the coast for several months earlier in the year in charge of the construction of the substations, is again in this territory after an absence spent in the San Joaquin Valley districts on similar work.

J. C. McCullough, wire foreman, has completed the work under way in the Santa Maria district and has returned to San Luis Obispo, where he probably will remain for some time.

Tule River

The work of tunnel cementing has been completed and attention of the different crews is now being directed to finishing up odds and ends on the job. The work of laying the pipe line and constructing the power house, which is in charge of the J. G. White Engineering Corporation, is being rushed forward.

Ed Rothschild, foreman in charge of the cementing, was compelled to make a hurried trip to San Francisco recently owing to the illness of his mother.

A. E. Avery, one of the foremen in charge of the drills, left the Tule River job upon the completion of his work and is now located in Yucapita.

The apples on the Doyle Ranch have been picked and this year they were of particularly good quality.

One of the recent additions to the camp equipment at Camp 4 is a club house. It was built under the supervision of E. C. Van Buren, and after

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he had completed his labors the boys were unanimous in their verdict that the structure was more than plumb. The interior was fitted with a stove, reading table and seats, and affords a great deal of comfort for the boys during their time off duty at nights. High up on the hill top a stove feels more than comfortable after sunset.

The pole gang have been working on the line from Porterville to the power house. It was completed into Springville before the first of the month and is now practically complete all of the way.

Mrs. Weile became the heroine of Camp 4 recently when she stepped into a breach caused by the sickness of the cook, and kept the camp supplied with food for the day. Mrs. Weile quickly responded to the call and she managed the kitchen with true executive ability. Her husband says that was the first morning she got up before breakfast during her sojourn on the hill top.

Lewis Lewis, the busy commissary clerk of Camp 4, was transferred from the Tule River job to North Fork the last of October and advantage was taken of his departure to take Mr. Emil Newman's horse "Toby" from Tule River to the Madera County camp. In other words, Lewis had to make the trip from Tule River to North Fork on "Toby." He negotiated the journey successfully after riding three and one-half days. Two days were taken in making Fresno, where he spent a day or two resting up, and then continued on his way. Lewis had a very successful trip, landing "Toby" safely in the barn at North Fork as well as bringing two other horses to Fresno.

With the Street Car Boys

Conductor Martin is enjoying a visit from his father, who recently came out from Kansas City to make his home in California with his son. Father and son had not met for sixteen years. It is needless to say that there was much mutual rejoicing when the reunion occurred. The younger Martin calls the elder his boy and Martin pere certainly looks the part. Despite his years, he has the actions of a vigorous youth.

Conductor Asa Clark has been doing the housekeeping act for some time during the month as his parents have been away on a trip to the southern part of the state. Although Asa is a good housekeeper, he does not relish this kind of work and some of the boys are saying that it will not be long before he takes unto himself a second party to whom this occupation will be more tasteful.

Motorman Edwin Turner is fast gaining the reputation of a violin player. In fact he has played a number of engagements recently at local social functions, and so satisfactory has been his work that a big demand has been created for his services. All hosts and hostesses are advised that in order to engage this clever musician, bookings should be made a long time ahead.

Conductor Spear, who hails from Vernon, Kentucky, recently celebrated his birthday and took a day off to enjoy the occasion with relatives near Delano. Like all true Kentuckians, Spear has the weakness for chicken and he certainly did justice to the old-fashioned dinner that was placed before him on that day.

One of the victorious contestants who were rewarded with a trip to the Portola in San Francisco as the result of a contest conducted by a local newspaper was Miss Minnie Wigans, daughter of Motorman F. Wigans. The young lady had a very delightful trip.

Motorman Andy Anderson has moved his residence and is now living on Twentieth street not far from the car barns. He finds the change more desirable as he will be spared a long walk during the cold mornings of the winter.

Motorman J. Cummings has been receiving the congratulations of the boys as the result of the arrival of a nine-pound heir in the household recently. The little fellow is getting along very nicely and the proud father predicts wonderful accomplishments for his son

Motorman P. Washburn is determined to have nothing more to do with automobiles. He recently dislocated his wrist while endeavoring to crank

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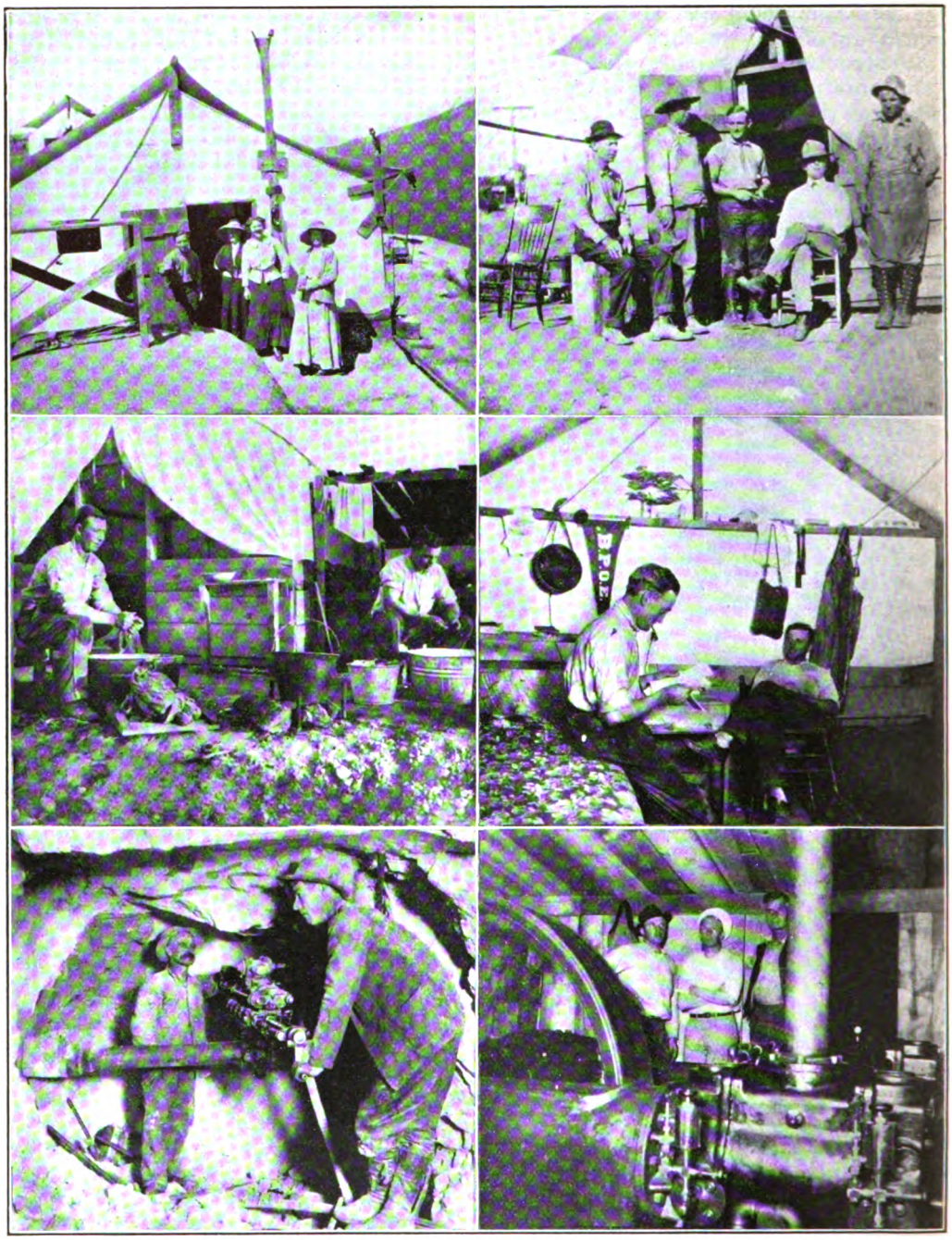

Reminders of the Tule River Job—Upper left: Commissary Clerk Louie Lewis entertaining the ladies. Upper right: A group of engineers, foremen and clerks in front of the administration tent. Reading from left to right, G. F. Leslie, Vic Roy, N. McGinnis, T. H. Dick, and M. Weile. Middle left: Vic Roy and I. Chapman on wash day. Middle right: Interior of the McGinnis-Chapman tent. Mac receiving a letter from the "only girl in the world." Lower left: D. W. Lloyd and A. E. Avery at the working end of one of the drills. Lower right: Three of the "big uns" in the compressor plant. From left to right, I. Chapman, H. Fowler and E. C. Van Buren.

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a Ford and Pat now says that if the "pesky critters" are going to act that way, none of them for his.

Motorman J. Bridges is putting in his spare time beautifying the tracks on South Chester avenue by removing the grass therefrom.

Conductor Earl Warren was on the sick list for a few days during the month but has now entirely recovered.

Motorman J. La Chance was off duty for some time during the month owing to a severe attack of tonsilitis.

Mac McCary decided to forsake the street car business to become one of Uncle Sam's employees and he recently took examinations to enter the mail delivery service, so don't be surprised, boys, if you see Mack at your door to deliver your Christmas present.

Superintendent J. F. Turner is again wearing his smile that never comes off for Mrs. Turner has returned to Bakersfield after a prolonged visit spent in Dunsmuir where she had been in attendance on her invalid mother.

Motorman James Moore is not in the same high spirits of late as is a part of his customary demeanor. Mrs. Moore was away on a visit to friends in the northern part of the state, and as Pop Crandall and M. Waite also were doing the batching act, Jim took pity on his two comrades and invited them into his home to keep him company. Jim himself attended to the cooking while Pop was made general overseer, and Frank was delegated to look after the minor details such as washing the dishes, sweeping out the house, doing the weekly wash, carrying in wood and watering the lawn. Pop and Frank evidently did not meet the situation as Jim intended they should. It would have been an easy arrangement for somebody, had it worked out as planned.

The boys are telling this one on Conductor Hess. This genial collector of fares is a lover of nature and he enjoys walking out to the river and other points of interest during his leisure hours. A few days ago he was accompanied by a fair lady for whom he has the greatest of regard. The two young people were walking along West Nineteenth street, ignorant of the passing of a street car. The car crew noticed that Mr. Hess was very much interested in the conversation and were surprised to see the conductor suddenly place his arm around the waist of his companion. Later in the day he was, of course, called to task by the street car crew, but he very gracefully crawled out of the embarassing position by declaring that his apparent untoward act had been done to assist his companion over some big rocks that had been rolled on the sidewalk by some mischievous boys and he felt sure by helping the lady over the obstructions, he was doing nothing more than would have been done by any gentleman under the same conditions. Although the car crew did not see the rocks, they believe in Hess' explanation.

Cutting Up Big Ranch Near the Wasco Colony

The work of improving the Parks, Patterson and Ullery ranch containing 2000 acres and adjoining Wasco Colony on the southwest, is being carried forward rapidly and probably 500 acres will be seeded to alfalfa and grain this fall. A caterpiller engine is being used for brushing and plowing.

Big Ranch Subdivided And Seeded to Alfalfa

The Melga rancho, known as the Chamberlain and Carr ranch until purchased by San Francisco capitalists, now has its first subdivision of 2200 acres on the market, all seeded to alfalfa and subdivided into tracts of 40 acres and up. The Charles A. Stanton Company of San Francisco are the proprietors of the ranch.

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AND

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